■ WORLD / A28

Egypt suffers first death from bird flu virus

■ BUSINESS / B2-1

Where parents' money will go this June

■ NEWS / A2

Opposition to test Senga guidance by talking to soldiers

■ BUSINESS / B1

Gov't to increase long-term peso bond float by P100B

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Monday, March 20, 2006 ★★ 6 sections / Vol. 21 / No. 102 P18 website: www.inq7.net

Militant leaders rage at medal for Palparan

PALPARAN

By Luige A. del Puerto

MILITANTS WERE IN AN UPROAR yesterday on learning that a controversial general they claimed was a top human rights violator would be decorated for meritorious service at today's Army Day

MILITANT/ A6

Is entertaining the public illegal? Joker asks cops

By TJ Burgonio and Luige A. del Puerto

BAKA MALLING, BAWAL NA DIN!

SINCE WHEN DID strolling in a black T-shirt by Manila Bay become a crime?

Senators Joker Arroyo and Rodolfo Biazon can't

IS ENTERTAINING/ A22

DOJ may drop raps vs 3 of 4 GIs in rape

Prosecutor bucks motion questioning VFA legality

JUSTICE SECRETARY Raul Gonzalez indicated yesterday that charges may be dropped against three of the four US Marines accused of raping a Filipino woman in November last year as cracks began to show in the legal team handling her case.

"I think not all of them should be charged, but Smith should be charged," Gonzalez said, referring to the principal accused, Lance Cpl. Daniel Smith, according to Agence France-Presse (AFP).

Smith faces charges of raping a 22-year-old Filipino woman at the Subic Bay Freeport following a US-Philippine counterterrorism exercise, AFP said.

Accused of conspiring with Smith were Marine SSgt. Chad Carpentier and Lance Corporals Keith Silkwood and Dominic Duplantis.

Gonzalez said his department would decide on Smith's appeal to have the rape charge dropped before the arraignment of the accused on March 24 at the Olongapo City court where they would face their accuser and enter a plea.

The court does not have to heed the DOJ's resolution, but it will have strong influence in deciding who will be charged.

The Marines have insisted only one of them had sex with the

DOJ/ A8

RP most endangered democracy in Asia

By Amando Doronila

ANALYSIS

AT NO TIME SINCE THE WATERshed military intervention in Philippine politics in 1986 has the Armed Forces emerged as a pivotal power broker in the country than during the weeks after President Macapagal-Arroyo's proclamation of a state of national emergency on Feb. 24.

Ms Arroyo lifted the state of emergency on March 3, but claims that residual threats from those seeking to oust her remain.

From this perspective, it can be said that the Philippines has gone through the crisis of Feb. 24 as the most endangered democracy in Asia among the developing countries that composed the "third wave" of new and restored democracies, including Thailand and Indonesia, in the wake of the collapse of authoritarian regimes in Latin America and Southeast Asia in the 1980s.

Thus, Feb. 24 marked a turning point in the democratization wave that might cause Prof. Samuel P. Huntington to revise his widely accepted treatise on the "third wave" of democratization, using the Philippine deviant experience as a case study of democratization in reverse.

The Philippines' first serious attempt at curtailing democracy since Ferdinand Marcos declared martial law 34 years ago stands in sharp contrast to the redemocratization when Filipinos toppled the Marcos dictatorship with people power 20 years ago.

The events of the past few weeks have proved that the country has again become the fulcrum—the pilot model—of democratic backsliding.

Indeed, the growing role of the military in the enforcement of security measures to strengthen state authority and to prop up a politically beleaguered administration has raised the specter of a crypto-military dictatorship.

People who have been watching news of the tumultuous

RP MOST/ A22

DEMONSTRATORS carry empty coffins draped in the US flag during an antiwar march and rally in Hollywood, California. REUTERS

Protests mark 3rd year of Iraq invasion

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA—ANTIWAR protesters took to the streets around the world, including the Philippines, to demand that American soldiers leave Iraq, on the second day of global protests marking the third anniversary of the US-led invasion.

The demonstrations started Saturday with 500 people chanting antiwar slogans in Sydney and rolled around the world, with major protests in London and the United States, where more than 1,000 people gathered in New York's Times Square.

However, attendance at the demonstrations was lower than organizers had predicted, and far short of the millions worldwide who protested the initial invasion in March 2003.

In Manila, a left-wing coalition called the Iraq Solidarity Campaign condemned the US military presence in Iraq—and in southern Philippines. About 500 peace activists belonging to the group said they planned a protest march on Monday to the heavily guarded US Embassy, where they planned to pelt President George W. Bush's picture with rotten vegetables.

"Filipino antiwar activists grieve for the growing lists of dead soldiers and civilians, mostly women and children, as the immoral and unholy war against so-called terrorism rages on, led by US President George 'war freak' Bush," the group said in a statement.

The Philippines banned the deployment of workers to Iraq after insurgents abducted Filipino truck driver Angelo de la Cruz in July 2004. In a bid to save his life, Manila conceded to the kidnap-

PROTESTS/ A23

Queer eye for straight Congress

By Blanche S. Rivera

THEY'RE HERE, THEY'RE QUEER, and they're all set to become a political force.

Running on a platform of antidiscrimination and equal employment opportunity, the Philippines' lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgender (LGBT) people are ready to break into the political scene with their entry in the party-list elections next year.

Ang Ladlad, a network of 150 LGBT individuals and counting, plans to file its candidacy for party-list representation in the Commission on Elections in September.

"This is a test case for us. We want to see if Congress, if the Philippines is ready for us," Ang Ladlad's founding chair and top candidate Danton Remoto told the INQUIRER in a phone interview.

Ang Ladlad includes some members from LEAP (Lesbian Advocates Philippines), Rainbow Rights, Baguio-based Lumina, and members of lesbian and gay groups in the University of the Philippines, Polytechnic University of the Philippines and the University of the East.

QUEER/ A22

A witness account of the agony in Milosevic's war

By Fernando del Mundo

(The writer is a former UN staff member who had gone on assignments in the former Yugoslavia, which had broken up into five countries—Serbia-Montenegro, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Macedonia and Slovenia. He joined the INQUIRER *10 months ago.—Ed.)*

SLOBODAN MILOSEVIC PROBAbly never knew that a Filipino was behind some of the more damaging reports of atrocities that prompted Nato to launch an air war on Serbia in the spring of 1999.

The Nato bombing lasted 78 days and led to the downfall of Milosevic, who died last week and was buried Saturday in his hometown of Pozarevac, in Serbia-Montenegro, all that's left of what was previously known as Yugoslavia. *(See story at right.)*

As a press officer in the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, I was essentially the eyes and ears of the UNHCR on the ground, traveling to remote villages to find out where aid was needed, reporting on what I had witnessed and bringing foreign correspondents to areas where they had no access.

On the eve of the Nato bombing, CNN ran a story on the Serbian offensive in the town of Srbica in the Serbian province of Kosovo—arena of the third war to engulf the Balkans following the breakup of Yugoslavia. Wars had previously raged in Croatia and Bosnia.

The CNN footage showed houses burning. There was an interview with two ethnic Albanian women, narrating in tears how Serbian police and paramilitary troops had raided Srbica and taken away their husbands.

The entire TV film clip came from the UNHCR: Using a digital camera, I had shot the scenes and conducted the interviews with the help of a driver-interpreter.

When Milosevic saw the CNN story, he fired off a protest to the UNHCR, accusing the office of

A WITNESS/ A12

MILOSEVIC'S longtime secretary Mirjana Dragolevic mourns on the marker by the grave of the former Serbian leader in Pozarevac town in Serbia-Montenegro. AP

Serbian leader buried where he, wife first kissed

POZAREVAC, SERBIA-MONTENEGRO—SLOBODAN Milosevic was laid to rest on Saturday beneath a tree in the backyard of the family estate in his hometown—an anticlimactic end to one of the bloodiest chapters in the history of the turbulent Balkans.

The burial of the late Serbian leader a week after his death while on UN trial for genocide and crimes against humanity followed a tense farewell ceremony in Belgrade that drew at least 80,000 nationalist supporters, and another in his birthplace attended by up to 20,000 admirers.

As a cold drizzle fell, his flag-draped coffin was lowered into a double grave with a place for his widow, Mirjana Markovic, who reportedly wants to join him when she dies.

The grave, marked with a simple marble slab inscribed with both the couple's names in Cyrillic letters and the dates 1941-2006, was dug beneath a favorite linden tree where Milosevic and Markovic first kissed as high school sweethearts.

No immediate members of Milosevic's family attended. But in a letter read out at graveside, Markovic, who lives in self-imposed exile in Moscow because she faces Serbian charges of abuse of power during her husband's 13-year reign, said: "You have come back to our home to

SERBIAN/ A13

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Eastern Mindanao will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to at times cloudy with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY KATE PEDROSO, PDI RESEARCH/03/19/06

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph
Second FRONT PAGE
Text us your feedback: inquirer news name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly Cloudy
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Partly Cloudy
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Partly Cloudy
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Partly Cloudy
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy
Legazpi	Partly Cloudy	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

Opposition set to defy Senga

Chiz: Dialogue with troops to push through despite 5-pt directive

By Michael Lim Ubac and Christine O. Avendaño

IN A MOVE THAT COULD PUT TO THE TEST THE five-point guidance issued by Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Generoso Senga, the House minority is bent on pushing through with "wider dialogues" with soldiers.

House Minority Leader Francis "Chiz" Escudero yesterday said the aim of the dialogues with the military "in and out of the camp" was "to listen to what they have to say."

He said the dialogues would also allow the opposition in the Lower House to answer charges that had been leveled against them by the administration.

According to Escudero, "soldiers, officers and enlisted men" should also learn that "being [in the] opposition does not make one an enemy of the state."

The talks would also disprove claims by the administration that the opposition had been plotting against President Macapagal-Arroyo.

The plan was disclosed by Escudero during deliberations Thursday on the proposed budget of the Department of National Defense.

The Sorsogon lawmaker insisted that the House minority had a right to talk to the soldiers since the President herself planned to do so.

He castigated Col. Tristan Kison, the erstwhile AFP spokesperson, for putting his foot down on the proposal. Kison had said that holding dialogues with soldiers without the approval of the military top brass constituted interference in the chain of command and would be dealt with accordingly.

Escudero said he found Kison's statement "the height of arrogance, especially in relation to a member of this chamber which is supposed to be the highest policy-making body of our government."

To appease Escudero, Rep. Rodolfo Bacani, the sponsor of the DND budget, said the minority could meet with soldiers in various camps subject to "security situations in the area you intend to visit."

Escudero clarified that the minority did not intend to conduct the dialogues for the purpose of politicizing the military.

In issuing the five-point "The Role of the Armed Forces in These Trying Times," Senga reminded soldiers to remain neutral and resist any attempts by politicians to use them for their vested interests.

Escudero pointed out that the politicization of the military was actually caused by the political process by which promotions and appointments were made within the AFP but leaving too much room for discretion on the part of the appointing authority (President Arroyo).

Defense Secretary Avelino Cruz had insisted they were "doing their best to insulate promotion from political interference, and are using performance as a basis for promotion."

Reacting to Senga's five-point guidance, maverick administration Sen. Joker Arroyo yesterday said the military should talk less, cut back on its propaganda and withdraw from the glare of the media.

"They better just keep quiet and return to barracks," he said in an interview.

Arroyo said the military's high-profile stance in the media wasn't helping dispel the belief that it was ready to flex its muscles and intervene in a political turmoil, much less quell the restiveness within its ranks.

"The AFP is very talkative. Every bit of everything is press release," he added.

For Sen. Panfilo Lacson, a former national police chief, the guidance would not help quell the restiveness within the military ranks.

"No amount of five-point guidance will remove the restiveness among military personnel, especially when the central figure in the 'Hello Garci' tape is now the prospective replacement of General Senga while the others were rewarded with the choicest positions," he said.

Malacañang, however, said the five-point guidance should serve as a "reminder" to politicians and those wanting to bring soldiers to their cause.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said the five-point guidance "clearly delineates the role of the military as professional soldiers committed to the chain of command and the Constitution."

Yesterday, Presidential Political Adviser Gabriel Claudio accused Sen. Rodolfo Biazon of agitating the military against the President.

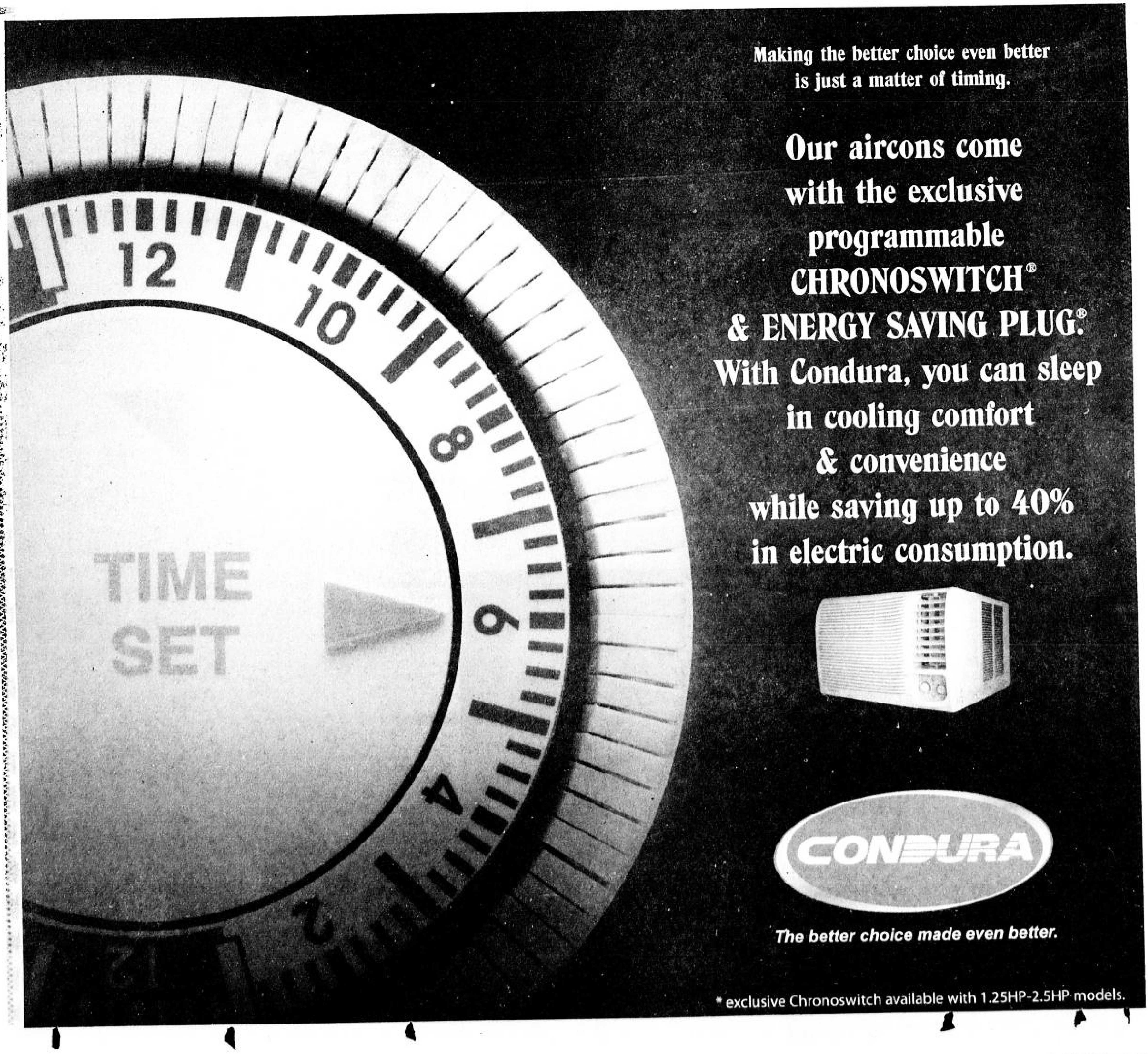
On Friday, Biazon called on soldiers to defend the Constitution, saying "anyone who violates the Constitution is your enemy."

In a text message, Claudio said that Biazon "practically accuses the President of violating the Constitution."

"If he is quoted correctly, Senator Biazon seems bent on inflaming the political situation and agitating the military against the President and other government authorities," Claudio said. *With reports from TJ Burgonio and Luige del Puerto*

CZECH VISITOR
Senate President Premysl Sobotka of the Czech Republic (left) is welcomed by Senate President Franklin Drilon at Villamor Air Base yesterday. The second highest official in his government, Sobotka and five other Czech senators are here on a four-day visit. They are scheduled to meet with Vice President Noli de Castro, Speaker Jose de Venecia, Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo and the other Filipino senators.

RODEL ROTONI



Making the better choice even better
is just a matter of timing.

Our aircons come
with the exclusive
programmable
CHRONOSWITCH®
& ENERGY SAVING PLUG®
With Condura, you can sleep
in cooling comfort
& convenience
while saving up to 40%
in electric consumption.

CONDURA

The better choice made even better.

* exclusive Chronoswitch available with 1.25HP-2.5HP models.

Corruption costing RP – CSC exec

By Nelson F. Flores

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSIONER KARINA Constantino-David has warned that the government's failure to curb corruption would heavily cost the nation's social fabric.

David, a sociologist, issued the warning Friday during the Anti-Corruption Convergence Summit at the Crowne Plaza Galleria Manila. Among the serious costs of failure, she said, would be society's indifference and apathy towards the government. She said these would ultimately lead to cynicism and the destruction of the democratic way of life.

According to David, the people now are slowly becoming indifferent due to the empty promises made about fighting corruption.

She said that for the anticorruption drive to be successful there should be a self-cleansing program in all the government agencies. "*Maglinis muna sa sariling bakuran* (Let's first clean our own backyards)," David stressed.

During the summit, Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez launched the National Anti-Corruption Program of Action (Nacpa), a comprehensive program of action against corruption in government.

"This is just the start of a unified approach in addressing corruption. With the Nacpa, the anticorruption campaign would be coordinated and well-planned," Gutierrez said.

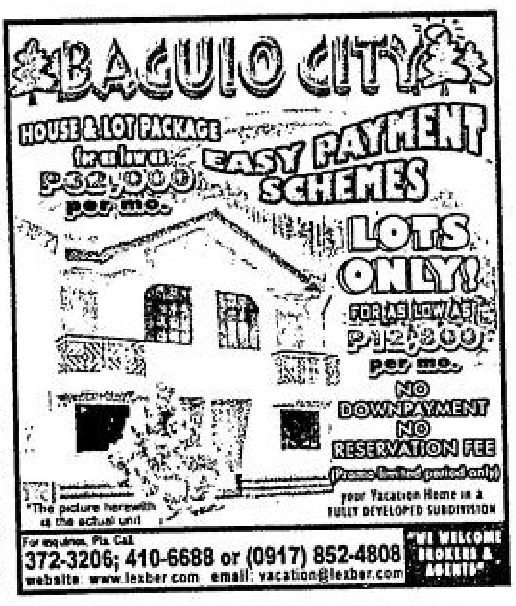
Gutierrez said that through Nacpa, the Office of the Ombudsman would strengthen the coordination of anticorruption programs between the government and civil society groups.

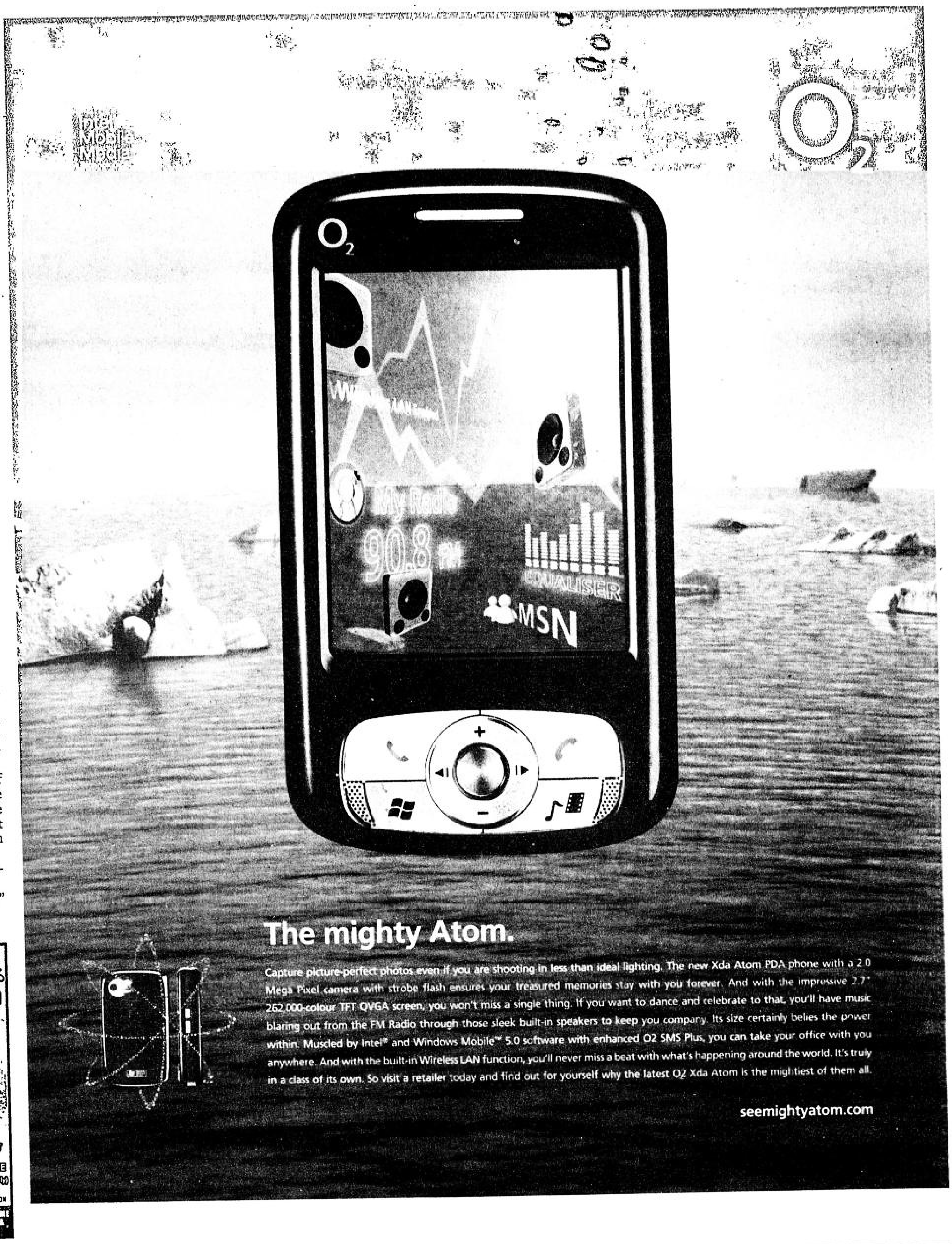
Among Nacpa's programs would be the training of at least 8,000 anticorruption investigators and prosecutors and the sponsorship of anticorruption laws.

Guillermo "Bill" Luz, executive director of the Makati Business Club and chair of the Coalition Against Corruption, challenged the Ombudsman to go after corrupt government officials and exercise its independence as an institution.

"We realize that the Office of the Ombudsman is an independent institution.

We look forward that its promises be kept," Luz said.

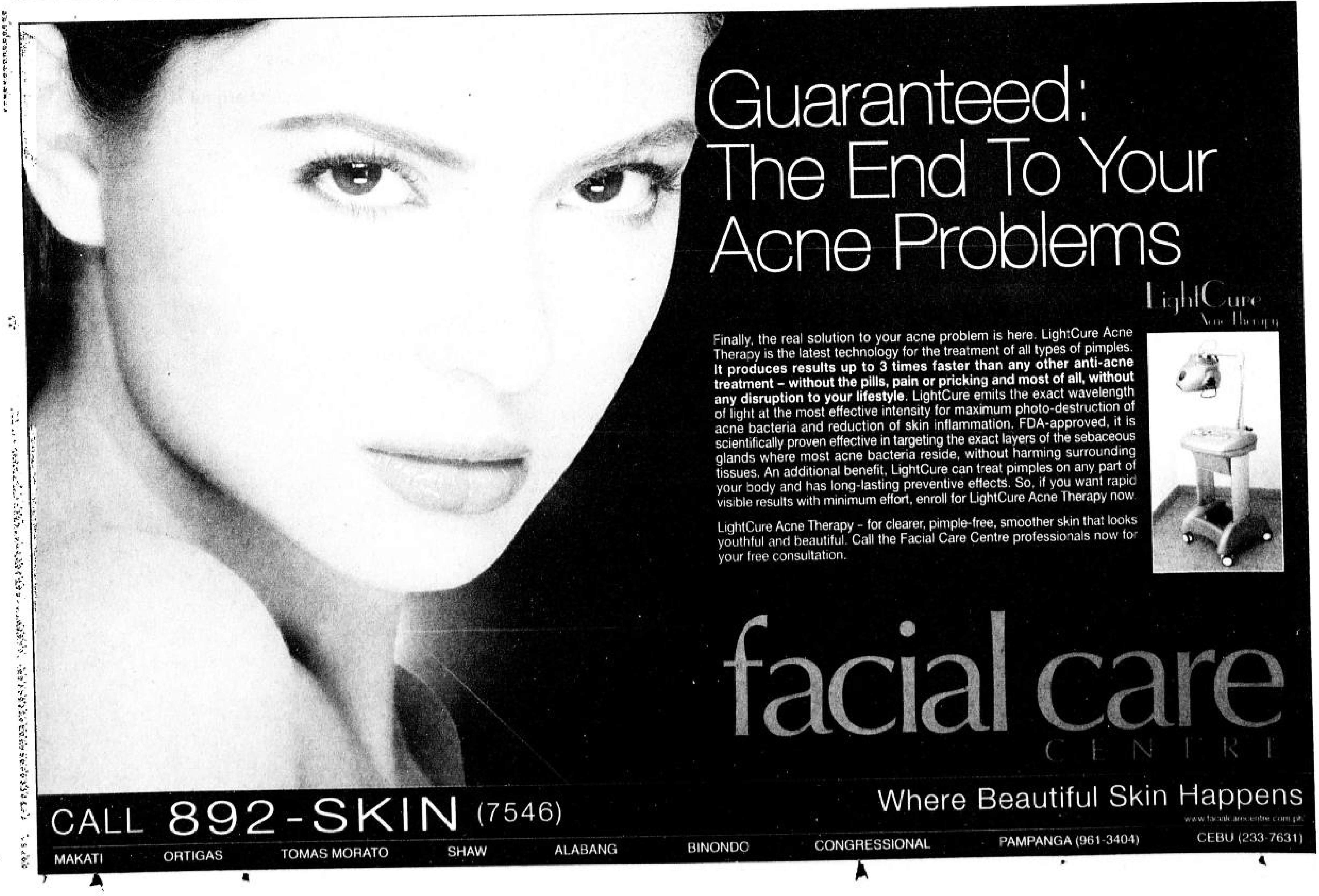

BAGUIO CITY
HOUSE & LOT PACKAGE for as low as P32,000 per mo.
EASY PAYMENT SCHEMES
LOTS ONLY!
FOR AS LOW AS P12,800 per mo.
NO DOWNPAYMENT
NO RESERVATION FEE
(Promo limited period only)
your Vacation Home in a FULLY DEVELOPED SUBDIVISION
*The picture herewith is the actual unit
For inquiries, Pls. Call
372-3206; 410-6688 or (0917) 852-4808
website www.lexber.com email: vacation@lexber.com
"WE WELCOME BROKERS & AGENTS"



The mighty Atom.

Capture picture-perfect photos even if you are shooting in less than ideal lighting. The new Xda Atom PDA phone with a 2.0 Mega Pixel camera with strobe flash ensures your treasured memories stay with you forever. And with the impressive 2.7" 262,000-colour TFT QVGA screen, you won't miss a single thing. If you want to dance and celebrate to that, you'll have music blaring out from the FM Radio through those sleek built-in speakers to keep you company. Its size certainly belies the power within. Muscled by Intel® and Windows Mobile™ 5.0 software with enhanced O2 SMS Plus, you can take your office with you anywhere. And with the built-in Wireless LAN function, you'll never miss a beat with what's happening around the world. It's truly in a class of its own. So visit a retailer today and find out for yourself why the latest O2 Xda Atom is the mightiest of them all.

seemightyatom.com


Guaranteed: The End To Your Acne Problems

LightCure Acne Therapy

Finally, the real solution to your acne problem is here. LightCure Acne Therapy is the latest technology for the treatment of all types of pimples. **It produces results up to 3 times faster than any other anti-acne treatment – without the pills, pain or pricking and most of all, without any disruption to your lifestyle**. LightCure emits the exact wavelength of light at the most effective intensity for maximum photo-destruction of acne bacteria and reduction of skin inflammation. FDA-approved, it is scientifically proven effective in targeting the exact layers of the sebaceous glands where most acne bacteria reside, without harming surrounding tissues. An additional benefit, LightCure can treat pimples on any part of your body and has long-lasting preventive effects. So, if you want rapid visible results with minimum effort, enroll for LightCure Acne Therapy now.

LightCure Acne Therapy – for clearer, pimple-free, smoother skin that looks youthful and beautiful. Call the Facial Care Centre professionals now for your free consultation.

facial care CENTRE
Where Beautiful Skin Happens
www.facialcarecentre.com.ph
CALL 892-SKIN (7546)
MAKATI ORTIGAS TOMAS MORATO SHAW ALABANG BINONDO CONGRESSIONAL PAMPANGA (961-3404) CEBU (233-7631)

SPLITS by CARRIER It's about time.

It's all about accessorizing your home.

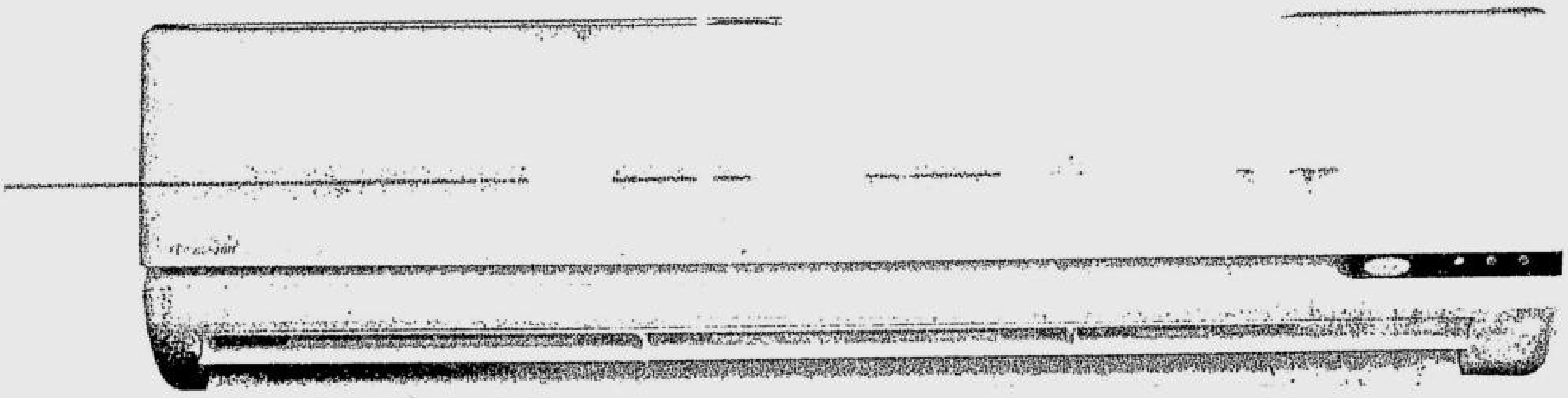
Flat is beautiful. Flat is the ultimate design in air conditioning systems. A Flat Panel means there are no ridges in the grill that can gather dust or grime. A Flat Panel blends in with the elegant interior design and ambience of your home or place of business.

It's all about intelligent cooling.

The Carrier Xpression is not just form but substance too. Here is where engineering is at its best. It has a 7mm Super-Conductive Lanced Sine Wave Fin Surface that speeds up the rate that heat is taken out of any room. Moisture that slows down the ability to absorb additional heat slides right off the coils of the Xpression's Hydrophilic Evaporator. The Turbo Cool and Powerful Mode features enable the unit to go full blast, cooling a room in less than 60 seconds.

xpress*ion*
Your ultimate split.

Face it, there's nothing like knowing you own the best. Whether it is aesthetics or the latest in technology. Breathing clean air or really silent cooling. What may be regarded as the best air-conditioning system is the best reward you can give yourself.



It's all about breathing clean.

Not just a lot of cool air, but a lot of clean, cool air. The Carrier Xpression has 5 exclusive features designed to do just that. A Washable Anti-Mold Filter screens out harmful mold, dust and pollen. A Photo-Catalytic Filter removes harmful gases and chemicals in the air. A Charcoal Filter neutralizes cooking odor and cigarette smoke. An Electrostatic Dust Collector catches airborne allergens like dust mites, pollen and dog dander. And an Anti-Bacterial Blower Fan and Drain Pan inhibit the growth of bacteria and fungi.

It's all about rewarding yourself.

The Carrier Xpression is in itself the ultimate assurance of quality in air conditioners. And no one deserves this more than yourself. So go ahead. Indulge yourself. The Carrier Xpression is truly your own just reward.

Carrier®

Turn to the Experts.℠

Cops admit case vs SAF rebels weak

By Luige A. del Puerto

THE POLICE HAVE ADMITTED THAT THE case against Special Action Force officers implicated in the attempt to unseat President Macapagal-Arroyo was "a little weak."

"In truth, it's a little weak, but we are not prohibited from submitting (additional) evidence during the trial," Director Marcelo Ele Jr., chief of the police Directorate for Investigation and Detective Management, said.

The DIDM, however, has "found probable cause" to recommend administrative summary hearings against Senior Supt. Benjamin Magalong, Chief Insp. Eric Dilag and Insp. Ryan Paloma.

The three officers face charges of grave misconduct. If found guilty, they could be dismissed from the service.

Their former superior, sacked SAF commander Chief Supt. Marcelino Franco, also faces charges of negligence, according to Ele.

"We have found probable cause based on the preponderance of reports (of their involvement)," Ele said on the phone. "But we have no sworn statements (against them). The case is a little weak."

Should they fail to get additional evidence, the police will be pursuing its case against the four SAF officers based on reports tagging them as having had a hand in trying to oust Ms Arroyo.

Police Director General Arturo Lomibao would be assigning a hearing officer to the case, Ele added.

Lomibao earlier said that part of the plan to unseat Ms Arroyo was for the SAF to take over Camp Crame and the Ninoy Aquino International Airport.

The SAF men, the most seasoned combatants in the police force, were supposed to take Lomibao and his two top deputies hostage, and force a declaration of a withdrawal of support by the PNP from the Arroyo administration.

The SAF had planned the attack on PNP headquarters and the Naia twice in January—on the 14th and then again on the 18th and 19th, Lomibao said.

The attacks were aborted, on at least one occasion, after Lomibao himself confronted one of the SAF commanders.

There were supposed to be similar moves by two other elite military units—the Philippine Marines and the Army's Scout Rangers, according to Lomibao.

When the plans were aborted, the SAF, Marines and Scout Rangers shifted their focus to joining the protest actions of Feb. 24, the 20th anniversary of the People Power revolution, Lomibao said.

Prelates making it hard for GMA to charm them

By Christian V. Esguerra

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO HAS TO work harder on her "charm offensive" directed at the Catholic Church if she is to overcome the apparent resistance put up by some prelates and priests to being disarmed by Malacañang.

While the President was touching base with several bishops in their dioceses during a recent seven-day sortie, she was unaware that a mobile phone text message was circulating among priests, warning that the visits harbored a "real motive."

Archbishop Angel Lagdameo, president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP), was the main recipient of the message composed by a priest.

"She is a clever strategist. It is easy to fall into her trap. She will even dangle money. I hope you can alert your colleagues," said the message, a copy of which was forwarded to the INQUIRER.

Another clergyman composed his own warning, which said: "We must remain steadfast and not allow ourselves to be used, especially if the initiative comes from GMA."

The Catholic Church, whose influence in politics is so great it has been a major factor in the downfall of presidents and the rise of new ones, has been opposing a mining law allowing foreigners to exploit the country's mineral resources. Malacañang has hoisted its enactment as an achievement in efforts at economic recovery.

In addition, the Arroyo administration has been buffeted by accusations of electoral fraud, a coup attempt led by military officers in February and, in its aftermath, a crackdown perceived to be accompanied by the trampling of civil liberties.

It therefore came as no surprise that Ms Arroyo took the time last week to visit, one after the other, Archbishop Paciano Aniceto of San Fernando, Pampanga, and Bishops Ramon Villena of Nueva Vizcaya and Arturo Bastes of Sorsogon.

"It was a good gesture on the part of the President to greet the bishops," Bishop Leonardo Medroso of Borongan, Samar, told the INQUIRER.

"But why wasn't she doing this before? There must be a motivation. For me, she wanted to court the bishops, to soften their stand on mining and the political issue."

Like Medroso, Bastes and Villena are strongly opposed to mining operations whose ill-effects were condemned by the CBCP in a pastoral letter distributed on Jan. 29.

SSANGYONG

Dream Price Deals, Dream Prize Thrills!

Owning your dream car has never been this easy! Take advantage of SsangYong's easy-financing schemes!

MODEL *	SRP	LOW, LOW DOWNPAYMENT DEALS**		LOW, LOW MONTHLY DEALS**	
		Actual Down	Advance Monthly (72 mos.)	50% Down	Advance Monthly (72 mos.)
Rexton 2.7 XDI AT *	P 1,925,000	P 105,000	P 34,721	P 962,500	P 19,728
Stavic 2.7 XDI AT * (11 Seater)	P 1,495,000	P 114,400	P 26,965	P 747,500	P 15,321

SsangYong has absorbed the impact of the reformed VAT and has specially formulated the above schemes just for you. Other deals also available.

EVERY PURCHASE OF A REXTON OR STAVIC WILL ALSO ENTITLE YOU TO:
- FREE PMS up to 30,000 kms. or 1 year, whichever comes first.
- A chance to win a trip for 2 to Paris!

Come and visit your nearest SsangYong dealer now! Trade-ins accepted.

*Other models & variants also available. **All deals are subject to bank approval. Promo runs from March 20 to May 31, 2006. Raffle draw June 15, 2006. See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1795 Series of 2006

SSANGYONG
German Technology. European Design.

SsangYong vehicles features:

CRDi ENGINE
2.7-L XDi
3rd generation Common-Rail Direct-injection engine

SHIFT-ON-THE-FLY 4-WHEEL DRIVE
Convenient shifting from 2H to 4H to 4L (For all Rexton models)

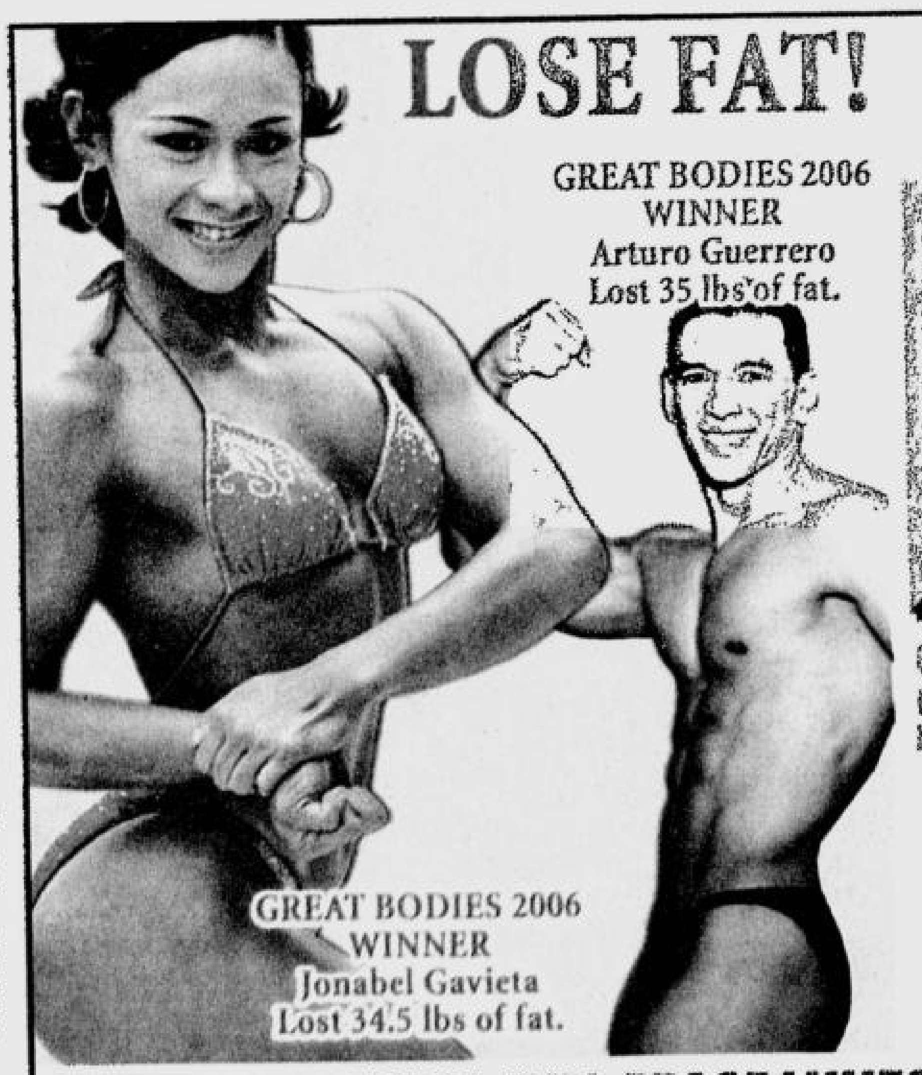
T-TRONIC TRANSMISSION
5-speed A/T with Artificial Intelligence (AI) program

10-LINK REAR SUSPENSION
Guarantees an easy ride whether in full passenger or not (For all Stavic models)

NOISE-REDUCTION INSULATION
Improved insulators totally eradicate noise

3 years warranty or 100,000 kms.

DISTRIBUTED BY SSANGYONG AUTO PHILS. CORP. • AUTHORIZED DEALERS: Wheels Auto Mall 222 E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Quezon City, Tel. No. (632) 7211884, (632) 7218477, (632) 7218439 Fax No. (632) 4114342 • SsangYong Quezon Ave. 1145 Quezon Ave., Quezon City, Tel. No. (632) 3735911, (632) 4113604, (632) 4132242 Fax No. (632) 3724188 • SsangYong Pampanga San Fernando-Olongapo Highway, San Fernando City, Pampanga, Telefax No. (045) 9613573


LOSE FAT!

GREAT BODIES 2006 WINNER
Arturo Guerrero
Lost 35 lbs of fat.

GREAT BODIES 2006 WINNER
Jonabel Gavieta
Lost 34.5 lbs of fat.

SLIMMERS WORLD
THE ULTIMATE IN FITNESS, SKIN & BODY TREATMENTS

ONLY P45* PER DAY

CREDIT CARD OPTIONS AT 0%.
MEDICAL SUPERVISION AT ALL CENTERS.
FIRST 25 SLOTS.

Per DTI-NCR Permit #9787 Series of 2005

5 FREE PERSONAL TRAINING SLOTS

FREE DANCE AEROBICS*

*SAVINGS APPLY TO FULL PROGRAMMES.

PERMANENT LASER HAIR REMOVAL
At the best price in the Philippines.

BODY SCRUB

ADVANCED CELLULOSS TREATMENT
Cellulite-free body.

HOT MASQUE

MESOTHERAPY
PASSIVE SLIMMING

Diamond Ultrapeel Hot Masque
Skin Whitening Body Former
Permanent Laser Hair Removal

BUY 15 TREATMENTS GET 5 FREE

■ MESOTHERAPY ■ AQUAMID ■ NUTRACELL-FACE ■ BOTOX ■ RESTYLANE ■ PERLANE ■ FACIAL ■ WART REMOVAL ■ LASER ACNE TREATMENT

FITNESS & SKIN HOTLINE 8873533 MOBILE 091-SLIMMERS (75466377)

CALL US
www.slimmersworld.com.ph
inquire@slimmersworld.com.ph

ALABANG Gemma/Wendy 809-0396
BINONDO Thelma/Jannah 242-1312
CALOOCAN Roda/Olive 365-7653
CEBU Juna/Anne 231-3254
GREENHILLS Eleanor/Juvy 726-6505
LEGASPI VILL. Lani/Jonah 893-8935
MALATE Daisy/Mhaye 536-0619
MEGAMALL Gina/Ruby 631-3869
PASAY RD Cher/Maan/Val 887-1335
Pasay Rd cellphone 09178515920
PASIG Lorie/Dino 647-3816
SM NORTH Mitch 929-5429
SUBIC Beth/Precy 252-6514
TRAFALGAR Anna 814-0138

SKIN CENTER HOTLINES: ALABANG 7750587/09183912510 BINONDO 2420728/09178224399 CALOOCAN 3657653 GREENHILLS 7261526/09194986196 MALATE 5259891/09213173415 MEGAMALL 6377543/09162479753 PASAY RD. 8873530/09156893088 PASIG 6473814/09275341314

Militant leaders rage at medal for Palparan

From page A1

celebration.

"This will only embolden and encourage more human rights violations by other officers of the Armed Forces," Bayan secretary general Renato Reyes Jr. said of the Distinguished Service Star honors to be conferred on Maj. Gen. Jovito Palparan during the 109th Philippine Army anniversary celebration in Fort Bonifacio.

Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas information officer Carl Ala said honoring Palparan meant he had received a fresh signal from his superiors to be "more brazen" in going after leftist activists.

The medal Palparan will get is given to senior officers who had done well as commanders of battalion-sized or bigger units. Unlike such decorations as the Medal of Valor and the gold Cross, it is not a combat medal.

Palparan is being honored "for eminently meritorious and valuable service rendered as Commander of the 8th Infrantry Division," a unit based in Samar, where local politicians and human rights militants protested his assignment last year.

The controversial general now commands the 7th Infantry Division in Luzon.

Reward, not punishment

"This goes to show that under the Arroyo administration, people like Palparan are rewarded and not punished for their involvement in human rights violations," Reyes said.

He said it appeared the administration had "exonerated Palparan" of alleged human rights violations and disregarded the numerous complaints against him.

"It's a slap on the face of the people. This is so ironic," said Ala.

The military dismissed the criticism as mere propaganda.

"Do they have basis for these accusations?" Army spokesperson Maj. Bartolome Bacarro said. "Like what General Palparan said, if they have complaints they should [bring them to] the right forum, not in the streets."

"He was given an award because he accomplished his mission, and he has accomplished it outstandingly," Bacarro added.

News that Palparan would receive the honor coincided with the release by a militant group of a new tally alleging that 18 political activists were killed in a "reign of terror" in Central Luzon from January to March 17 this year.

Ten other activists were reported missing during the period, said Joseph Canlas, chair of the Alyansa ng Magbubukid sa Gitnang Luzon (AMGL).

The AMGL counted 10 killings in Bulacan, three each in Tarlac and Nueva Ecija, and one each in Pampanga and Bataan.

Palparan yesterday said it was "baseless" to blame him or the military for the slayings and disappearances. He said leftist groups and the New People's Army had made their own enemies.

He said it was wrong to call Bulacan the "killing fields" since the number of soldiers, policemen and village chiefs slain by the NPA in the province outnumbered the civilian victims.

Human rights groups had also filed charges against Palparan for alleged rights violations while he was brigade commander in Mindoro.

He was also blamed by other groups and Western Samar Representatives Catalino Figueroa and Reynaldo Uy for 199 human rights violations when he was assigned to that province.

During House committee hearings last year, Palparan said accusations that he had approved killings and other human rights violations were unfounded and "highly malicious."

"How can I think of killing a person … whom I was not fully knowledgeable of?" he said.

Besides Palparan, the Distinguished Service Star medal will go to Col. Eduardo del Rosario as commander of the 73rd Infantry Battalion between June 2000 and July 2003.

First Lt. Roden Orbon will get the Gold Cross for gallantry in action as platoon leader of a team that encountered some 200 Moro rebels in Pikit, Cotabato, in 2003.

MSgt. Rosa Maria Lanila will receive the Outstanding Achievement Medal, Cadet Col. Ronino Bungcaras a Bronze Cross, and Maj. Francisco Ladrido the Gawad sa Kaunlaran award. *With a report from Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

IN THE KNOW

Cases vs Palparan

REPORTED CASES OF HUMAN RIGHTS violations in the Visayas during Maj. Gen. Jovito Palparan's term as commander of the 8th Infantry Division (February to Sept. 1, 2005):

- March 14—Bayan Muna regional coordinator Felidito Dacut is shot dead in Tacloban City.
- April 6—Five improvised bombs are lobbed at the Bayan Muna office in Catarman, Northern Samar, injuring one person.
- April 9—Motorcycle-riding men in Borongan shoot and wound Aldin Ambida, Bayan Muna Eastern Samar coordinator.
- April 15—Bayan Muna coordinator Alfredo Davis is gunned down by two men in Mahaplag, Leyte. His wife Imelda, of Abanse Pinay, is wounded.
- April 19—Members of the 63rd Infantry Battalion allegedly use helicopters to bomb Barangay Guibatangan and the adjacent village of Palmera in Northern Samar, forcing around 500 families to leave their homes.
- May 3—Bayan Muna organizer Diosdado Abunda is shot and wounded by unidentified men.
- May 8—Leo Bagares, vice chair of Bayan Muna in Eastern Visayas, is shot and wounded by motorcycle-riding men in Guiuan, Eastern Samar.
- May 12—Protestant Pastor Edison Lapuz, Katungod-Sinirangan Bisayas chair, and Alfredo Malinao, head of the Kahugpungan sa mga Mag-uruma sa San Isidro, are shot dead in San Isidro, Leyte.
- Also in May—Around 900 residents of eight upland villages in Calbiga, Samar, flee their homes following "special operations" by soldiers. Bayan Muna Rep. Satur Ocampo says 11 activists have been killed and four attempted murders and 98 cases of human rights violations have been reported since Palparan assumed command of the 8th Division.
- Sept. 1—Bayan Eastern Visayas chair Norman Bocar is gunned down in Borongan, on the same day Palparan took over as chief of the 7th Infantry Division in Central Luzon.

Cyril L. Bonabente, PDI Research

Correction

IN THE MARCH 19 ISSUE, the front-page banner story—"Senga sets 5-pt guidance"—misquoted Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Generoso Senga as saying that the AFP's constitutional mandate was "not a license to wrest leadership of the government from public officials on the basis of perceived intervention of governance." What Senga actually said was "perceived imperfection"—not intervention—"of governance."

* * *

Readers may send their requests for correction of factual errors in writing to the Day Desk, Philippine Daily Inquirer, PDI Building, Chino Roces Avenue corner Mascardo Street, Makati City, fax Nos. 897-47-93/94; e-mail address: daydesk@inquirer.com.ph.

Complaints about lack of fairness or objectivity may be sent to Lorna Kalaw Tirol, readers' advocate, e-mail address: readersadvocate@inquirer.com. ph or fax Nos. 897-47-93/94, Attn: Readers Advocate. Her phone number is 897-8808 Local 342.

Autozentrum BMW

BMW Premium Selection.
Pre-owned Automobiles.

Premium Selection program benefits:
- 12 month or 20,000 kilometer warranty
- comprehensive 100-point technical check
- certified vehicle history
- flexible ownership packages

Sometimes brand is more important than new.

Model	Model Year	Color	SRP
520i Limo	2004	Titanium Silver	3,790,000
X3 2.5 SAV	2004	Black Sapphire	2,930,000
X3 2.5 SAV	2004	Mystic Blue	2,930,000
X5 3.0 Exec	2004	Titanium Silver	4,550,000
X5 3.0 Exec	2004	Sterling Grey	4,550,000

520i Limo : 30%DP - 24 Mos @ Zero(o) % interest
X3 Models: 20%DP - 24 Mos @ Zero(o) % interest
X5 Models: 30%DP - 24 Mos @ Zero(o) % interest

Promo period is from March 16 to 31, 2006
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A2-150, Series of 2006

Other models available:

Model	Model Year	Color	Mileage	SRP
116i	2006	Quartz Blue	120	1,499,000
118i Sport	2005	Sparkling Graphite	1,977	1,950,000
120i	2005	Quartz Blue	13,231	1,975,500
318i Exec	2002	Titanium Silver	39,423	1,350,000
318i Exec	2005	Sienna Red	14,756	1,879,000
320i (E90)	2005	Monaco Blue	7,388	2,250,000
320i Exec (E90)	2005	Arctic	2,197	2,450,000
323i	1999	Black Sapphire	42,900	1,358,000
325i Exec	2003	Titanium Silver	50,115	1,739,000
325i Exec	2005	Orient Blue	8,200	2,299,000
325i Exec	2006	Steel Grey	1,905	2,367,000
325i Exec (E90)	2006	Sparkling Graphite	1,014	3,286,472
325i Exec	2006	Steel Grey	5,235	2,311,000

BMW Xpo 2006

BMW Xpo Month Activities
March 1 to 31, 2006
All authorized BMW Dealerships
[illegible]

BMW Xpo Central Event Activities
March 17 to 19, 2006
[illegible]

Autozentrum BMW
Madrigal Business Park, Commerce Avenue, Alabang, Muntinlupa City
Trunkline (02) 772 6021 to 24. Direct Line (02) 807 1762

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0257 Series of 2006

MAGIC SING XTREME
HANDHELD VIDEOKE MICROPHONE
THE ORIGINAL!
MAGIC SING
INTERNATIONAL EDITION
"SA TOTOO LANG, XTREME MAGIC SING ANG GUSTO KO!"
MANNY PACQUIAO
THE PEOPLE'S CHAMPION!
ver.8.0
ver.9.0
ver.6.0
2006 INTERNATIONAL EDITION
AVAILABLE SONG CHIPS:
Tagalog Series, Religious and Foreign Songs, Children's Songs and a lot more!

XTREME Magic Sing products available nationwide!

METRO MANILA DEALERS
QUIAPO / BINONDO AJD Electronics 736-3880 • Armstrong Electronics 733-2849 • Bog's Electronics 733-2386 • Delta Appliances 533-4053 • Gemetric 314-8871 • Hi-Mark Sales 736-1882 • J&R 242-1576 • Jems Appliances 703-1024 • JMD Electronics 736-3880 • Joy's Electronics 734-9904 • Just 734-1819 • MAC Audio/Video 309-4472 • Millennium Electronics 314-8508 • OK Electronic 733-9691 • Richland 733-1706 • Santech Electronics 734-1821 • W & M Marketing 735-4274 • Worldwide Audio & Video 241-3446 • Zoo Enterprise 734-0731 • **MALATE / MAKATI / PARANAQUE / PASIG / MUNTINLUPA** A. Salonga 400-4492 • Image Video 525-1015 • Sohan Audio & Video Int'l 527-1171 • Phasetron Audio Systems 819-7372 • M@RS Trading 776-8528 • U R Household Shop 687-0400 • Alabang Marketing 533-4653

PROVINCIAL DEALERS
BAGUIO • Rajat Electronics (074) 444-9340 • **BANGUED** Mike's Superstore • **BATAAN** Ocampo's Mega Store Balanga (047) 237-2843, Dinalupihan • **BICOL** Multibrand (054) 473-7282 • **BOHOL** Island City Mall (038) 411-3860 • **CAVITE** V. Divina Enterprises (046) 890-0309 • **CEBU** A. Salonga (032) 232-5378, M. Miranda (032) 262-3819 • **DAVAO** Funtronics (082) 227-0545 • **ILOCOS NORTE** Ricafort Trading (077) 770-3410 • **LA UNION** BHF Corp • National Bazaar • Video City • **LAOAG** Family Trade House • New India Dept. Store (077) 772 0870, (077) 772-0478 • Allied Marketing (077) 770-3257 • **LAGUNA** MSC Data Exchange (049) 562-7172 • **LEYTE** RL Appliance (053) 321-2635 / 7442 Sogod Branch 382-3029, Baybay Branch 563-8113, Ormoc City Branch 561-4320, Naval Biliran branch 500-9710, Maasin City Branch 381-3861 • **LUCENA** Reclo (042) 373-7777 • Normel Marketing (042) 710-4817 • **OLONGAPO** Ocampo's Olongapo, Inc. (047) 222-4444, (047) 223-3000, (047) 222-2548 • **PANGASINAN** Ricafort Trading (075) 522-7112 • **PAMPANGA** Downtown (045) 900-0225, Ocampo's Emporium (045) 963-0084, Ocampo's Jewelry (045) 888-2049 • **S. COTABATO** D' Sunata Record Bar General Santos (083) 553-5073, Koronadal (083) 228-3644 • **TUGUEGARAO** New Tuguegarao Bombay Bazaar (078) 844-2660, (078) 846-2259 • **VIGAN** Family Trade House • Video City • **ZAMBALES** Ocampo's Subic (047) 232-2930

EXCLUSIVELY DISTRIBUTED BY:
THE ASTRA GROUP, INC.
G/F Richbelt Tower, 17 Annapolis St., Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila
Tel: 72-MAGIC (62442), 726-9999, 726-2443, 726-2449 www.magicsing.com.ph

MANUFACTURED IN KOREA BY
ET ENTER TECH
ENTER TECH CO. LTD.

HOMS HOBS & HOODS
Fratelli Onofri MADE IN ITALY
Professional Italian Kitchen Appliances

DELUXE PACKAGE

Stainless Steel Hob
- Gas hob with control knobs
- Auto ignition integrated in burner
- Auto lock safety device
- Cast iron grids

Stainless Steel Hood
- 304 stainless steel
- 850m³/hr air flow
- Washable three-ply aluminum grease filter
- CE safety approved

Conventional Oven
- Minute minder
- Electric conventional oven
- Electric grill with rotissene
- Thermostat

CRAZY DEAL

All for only
Php 33,999

From classic to hi-tech style, our range of appliances offers a perfect solution for any kitchen environment.

8 cooking functions Electric gGrill
Teflon coated blades Tempered glass w/ lifetime warranty
304 stainless steel chassis 700m³/hr air flow
Surefire battery ignition system Flame failure safety valve system
Auto ignition integrated in burner Dual cooking zones
2 tornado burners 1 semi rapid burner

NOW OPEN

HOMS DESIGN • CENTER
107 D. Tuazon Street, Brgy. Lourdes
Sta. Mesa Heights, Quezon City
Tels. 740-8035 • 740-8036

UNIVERSITY OF PERPETUAL HELP DALTA
(formerly UPHR)

30 years 1975
of Perpetualite Service as *Helpers of God*

The First 30 Years: Realizing A Vision

In 1975, in the midst of a decade of rapid urban growth in the southern fringes of Manila, founder **Dr. Antonio Laperal Tamayo** and his wife and co-founder, **Dr. Daisy Moran Tamayo**, together established a much-needed haven of learning within the town of Las Piñas.

Along with their close associate and co-founder, the late **Ernesto Palanca Crisostomo**, they envisioned a premier university rising up in Las Piñas, a once-bucolic town known for its thriving salt industry and the famous Bamboo Organ. They saw a bulwark of academic achievement that would act as "a catalyst for human development", ultimately offering their fellowmen opportunities to pursue a better quality of life.

The University of Perpetual Help Dalta

Dr. Antonio L. Tamayo serves as the University's First President and Chairman of the Board, while Dr. Daisy M. Tamayo serves as its Second President. Both hold Masteral and Doctorate degrees from top institutions here and abroad – Antonio from the prestigious George Washington University in Washington, D.C. and Daisy from New York University.

UPH-DALTA and UPH-JONELTA (founded by Antonio's parents, **Drs. Jose and Nena Tamayo**) together formed a consortium known today as the **University of Perpetual Help System**. All together, UPH-DALTA and UPH-JONELTA comprise a total of eight campuses with 40,000 students and four hospitals.

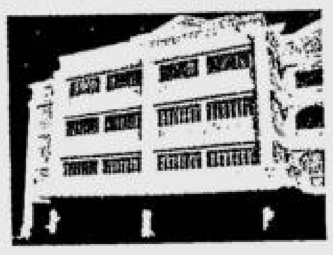
Building National Character

The credo upon which the UPH DALTA has anchored its vision is also its founders' own personal battlecry: "Character Building is Nation Building". Recognizing the role that an individual's strength of character plays in nation building, Dr. Antonio L. Tamayo passionately asserts that "our young can only be assured of a better tomorrow by building the right kind of character today – respectful, hardworking and committed to the formation of a prosperous and wealthy nation."

Committed to the Ideals of Excellence

Through the years, excellence has been achieved and proven through the many accolades the University has received. The UPHR College of Law, for example, has been declared as one of the 10 Best Law Schools in the Bar Examinations. Numerous graduates consistently take top honors in professional licensure examinations. Even the University's athletic organization has attained the top overall championship in the National College Athletics Association (NCAA) for two consecutive years.

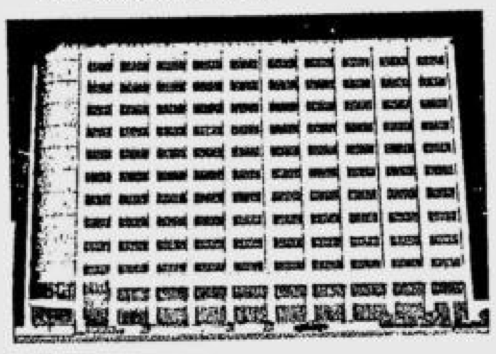
DIGNITY BACK: *Perpetual Extension School, New* ***Bilibid Prison***, *Muntinlupa City. Shown in photo from left: Mr, Raymund Narag, Dr. Daisy M. Tamayo, Dr. Resurrecion Morales, Ms. Bea Zobel and Ms. Baby Bunye.*



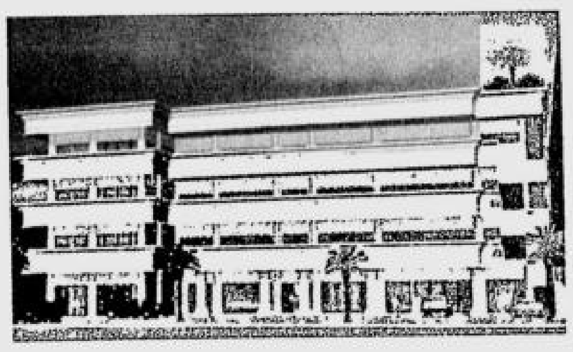
Calamba, Laguna campus

Molino, Cavite campus

Las Piñas campus



University Medical Center Health Tower



University Mall and Carpark

Aside from its many academic laurels, the University enjoys recognition and accreditation from prestigious institutions. Various courses of the tertiary level are accredited by the Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities Commission on Accreditation (PACUCOA). The secondary level is accredited by the Philippine Accreditation Association of School, Colleges and Universities (PAASCU). The University was also recently awarded the ISO 9001:2000 for Maritime Programs by the Societe General de Surveillance (SGS).

The UPH DALTA offers a total of 72 degree and non-degree programs in various fields such as Graduate programs, Doctor of Medicine, Nursing and other Allied Health Programs, Business, HRM, Tourism, Arts and Sciences, Education, Law, Engineering, Criminology and Maritime Education, Computer and IT, Technical and Vocational Education including Care Giver, Medical Transcription and Automotive Service Training, as well as Basic Education.

Basta Nursing, Perpetual!

As a testament to the excellence of the **Perpetualite Nursing Education**, licensure examination passing rates have reached 100% in the last few years. Foreign job placement networks within the Perpetualite system provide opportunities for immediate employment upon graduation at hospitals in Manila, the United States, the United Kingdom, the Middle East, Japan and other countries.

The Perpetualite Legacy

At the heart of the university's legacy is a calling for Perpetualites to be "Helpers of God." In the spirit of altruism, the students are encouraged and inspired to develop a character of helpfulness – a trait essential in all fields of discipline, but specially manifested in the medical and paramedical fields where students learn how to use their skills to heal their fellowmen; and in business and technology, where they learn the temporal, socio-economic aspects of nation building. This legacy is fostered in the core curriculum, especially in the "Filipino Christian Living" component of the University educational program. As such, the education UPHD provides is **Christian in character and Catholic in doctrine.**

University of Perpetual Help DALTA System founders Dr. Antonio Laperal Tamayo and Dr. Daisy Moran Tamayo with sons Richard Antonio and Anthony Jose Tamayo.

The Next 30 Years: A New Vision

The vision that began 30 years ago has gained even more momentum with the added corporate expertise of Drs. Antonio and Daisy Tamayo's two sons, Anthony Jose and Richard Antonio. Following in their parents' footsteps, both are academic achievers in their own right – graduating *cum laude* from the University of the Philippines, with Anthony finishing his masters degrees at both Harvard and Northwestern Universities while Richard pursues an MBA and Masters in Hospital Administration. As corporate leaders, they are actively supporting their parents' global thrusts by pursuing linkages and strategic alliances, locally and internationally. This will ensure broader choices and opportunities for graduates of Nursing, HRM and other courses.

Celebrating The Journey

On the occasion of its 30th anniversary, the University wishes to express its gratitude to all its faculty members, officers, students, alumni, employees, the communities it serves, as well as every individual or group that has ever been part of its remarkable journey.

With the blessings of Our Lord Almighty, and the loving guidance of Our Mother of Perpetual Help, this bastion of learning and academic distinction known as the University of Perpetual Help DALTA looks towards the future with pride and confidence, in anticipation of greater things to come.

UNIVERSITY OF PERPETUAL HELP LAS PIÑAS
Alabang-Zapote Rd., Las Piñas City
(02) 8710639

UNIVERSITY OF PERPETUAL HELP CALAMBA
Barangay Paciano Rizal, Calamba, Laguna
(046) 4771630

UNIVERSITY OF PERPETUAL HELP MOLINO
Bacoor, Cavite
(049) 5134775

www.perpetual.edu.ph

Congratulations on your 30th Anniversary!

Looking after you.
Bank of Commerce

DOJ may drop raps …

From page A1

woman and that the act was consensual.

Lawyers for Smith and Carpentier have confirmed their appearance at the arraignment, while a lawyer at Silkwood and Duplantis said he is still studying whether to bring his clients to court.

The men are in the custody of the US Embassy. It has refused to hand them over to local authorities, citing a provision in the Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA) that allows US authorities to keep soldiers in their custody during legal proceedings.

In Olongapo, Prosecutor Prudencio Jalandoni called the INQUIRER to say he was not supporting the omnibus motion filed by the woman's private lawyers—Evalyn Ursua, Honorato Aquino and Anna Liza Gonzales.

The motion, filed on Friday, asked Olongapo Judge Renato Dilag to declare Article 5, Paragraph 6, of the VFA unconstitutional. This states that the custody of the accused resides in the US military and outlines the one-year window to resolve judicial proceedings involving American military personnel.

The Philippine Senate approved the VFA in 1999.

The custody and jurisdiction issues have prompted Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago and several senators to seek the abrogation of the agreement.

Fear of delays

"I will not join [the motion] because it will just delay the proceedings," Jalandoni said.

He said the Supreme Court had upheld the constitutionality of the VFA "in its entirety."

He said his nonconfirmation of the private lawyers' motion would prompt the judge to deny the motion.

Jalandoni said he was following the instruction of Chief State Prosecutor Jovencito Zuño that "it was not right to defer the proceedings on the basis of a question on the constitutionality of the VFA."

"What we want is a speedy trial," he said.

Jalandoni said he wanted the March 24 arraignment set by Dilag to proceed as scheduled.

However, the private lawyers, in their motion, asked for a deferment of the arraignment until the questions of custody and jurisdiction were settled.

They also moved for the issuance of an "alias warrant of arrest" to substitute Dilag's Jan. 13 warrant.

Procedural issues

Zuño returned the Jan. 13 warrant to Dilag after the US government on Jan. 16 formally acknowledged custody of the accused.

Dilag later recalled the warrant, saying that "by submitting themselves to the custody of the US Embassy, [the accused] are deemed to have surrendered to the proper authorities."

The woman's lawyers said the VFA provision that they questioned effectively amended the court's rules of criminal procedure on arrest, bail, arraignment and trial, among other things.

"Against this factual backdrop arises the legal question as to whether the VFA has effectively amended our rules of criminal procedure, thereby infringing on the Supreme Court's exclusive power to promulgate rules of practice and procedure in all courts as provided under the Philippine Constitution," part of the 22-page motion said.

The woman's lawyers said that "without acquiring physical jurisdiction over the accused, this court will have no jurisdiction to continue with the proceedings in this case."

They said a copy of the motion was furnished the Office of the Solicitor General because the matter involved legal questions.

The lawyers also said the US Embassy in Manila, where the four soldiers are being held, is "not an office of the Philippine government, nor is it under the authority of this court."

Even the premises of the US Embassy are "not part" of Philippine territory, they said.

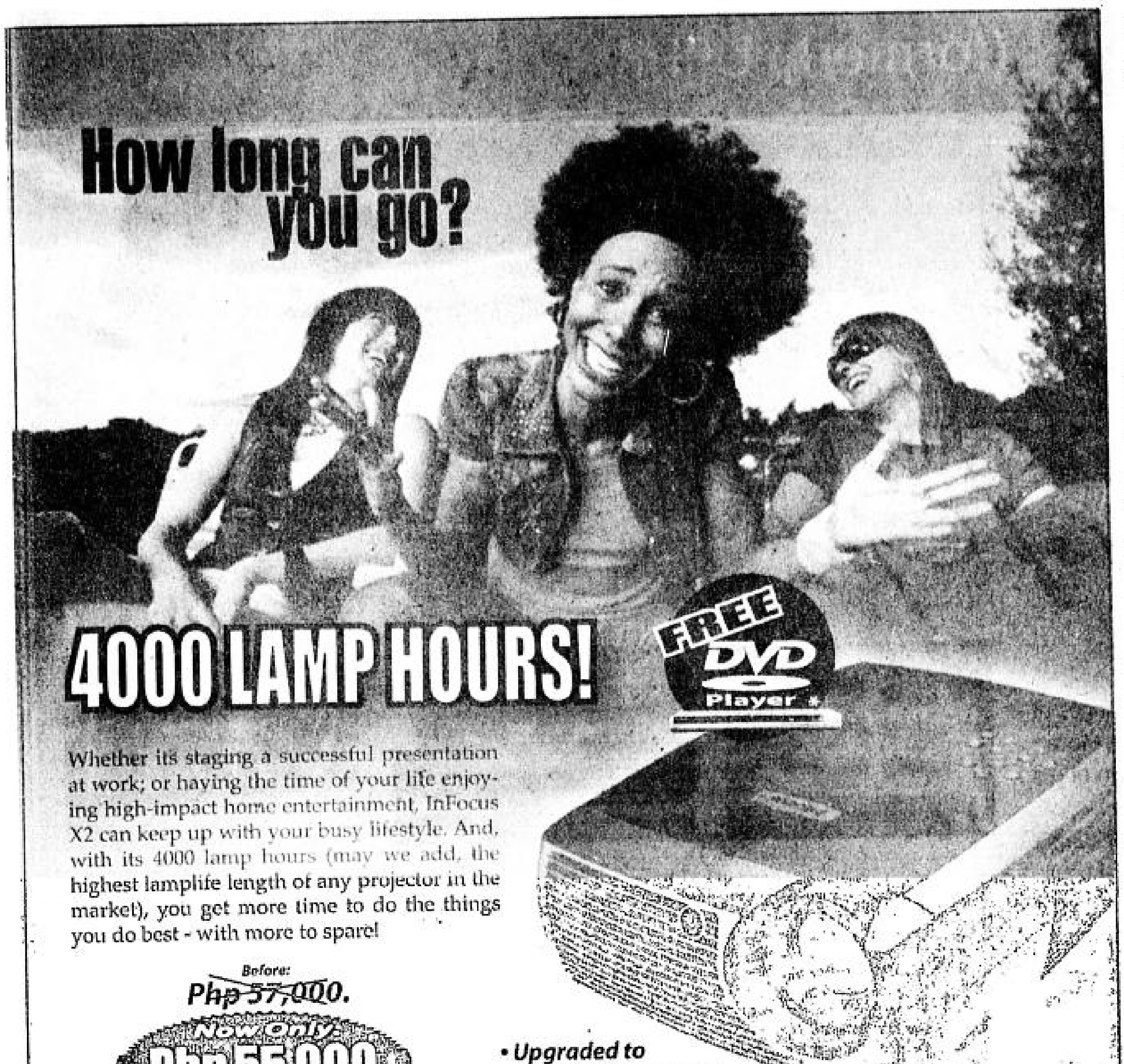
The situation, they said, was "aggravated further" by the one-year period set by the VFA to resolve criminal cases.

Due process

The woman's lawyers said their client's right to due process had also been violated because the court was denied custody of the accused.

This has made her a "second-class citizen" in her own country as "privileged treatment" is given to the US military personnel, they said.

The motion has been set for hearing on March 22 or two days before the arraignment. *Reports from AFP, Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*



Whether its staging a successful presentation at work; or having the time of your life enjoying high-impact home entertainment, InFocus X2 can keep up with your busy lifestyle. And, with its 4000 lamp hours (may we add, the highest lamplife length of any projector in the market), you get more time to do the things you do best - with more to spare!

Before: ~~Php 57,000.~~

Now only Php 55,000.

- Upgraded to 1700 ANSI Lumens
- 7th Generation DLP™ Technology
- 2000:1 contrast ratio
- 4000 Lamp Hours

*For every purchase of InFocus X2.
Promo period is from March 13 - 31, 2006.

InFocus X2

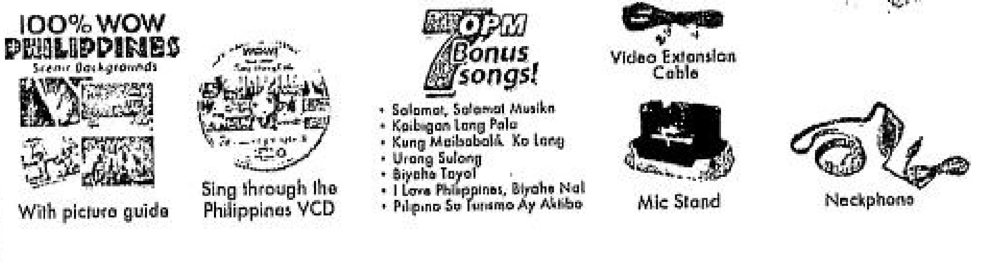
InFocus®
The Big Picture™

Exclusive Distributor and Service Provider:
better solutions
AMERICAN TECHNOLOGIES INC
url: www.ati.com.ph e-mail: inquire@ati.com.ph
Fax: 723-7951

For more info, please call 7230601 or email inquire@ati.com.ph

WOW! MAGIC SING
MAGIC MICROPHONE
Gamit natin sa singing!

Exclusive freebies:



- Salamat, Salamat Musika
- Kaibigan Lang Pala
- Kung Maibabalik Ko Lang
- Urong Sulong
- Biyahe Tayo!
- I Love Philippines, Biyahe Na!
- Pilipino Sa Turismo Ay Aktibo

ED8000
MABUHAY 2006 EDITION
- Contains 2,064 Songs
- USB Ready
- External Video Source
- Record & Play
- Wireless Stereo Output at 4 FM Frequencies

ED9000
SILVER FIESTA 2006 EDITION
- Contains 2,064 Songs
- 5 meter fixed cable

ED7000
PAPURI 2006 EDITION
- Contains built-in Bible (New International Version)
- Contains 1,065 Hymns & Christian Songs
- External Video Source
- USB Ready
- Select soprano, alto, tenor or bass key
- Select organ and/or piano as accompaniment

ALL-ORIGINAL, ALL IMPORTED FROM KOREA. MANUFACTURED BY ET ENTERTECH Co. Ltd.
*PROMO EXTENDED up to Feb 28 2006 Per DTI NCR Permit No 2938 series of 2005

AUTHORIZED DEALERS:
odyssey MUSIC & VIDEO · avant ABENSON · ABENSON · AstroVision · Automatic CENTRE · AV BRANDS! · AV Surfer · TOWER RECORDS · MUSIC & VIDEO · ABENSON · ABENSON · Robinsons Appliances · ASTROPLUS · Home & Office Center · WESTERN · JB MUSIC The Complete Music Shop · CSI Houseware & Appliance Center · ESL EMILIO S. LIM APPLIANCES · TIONGSAN HARRISON · MART · Kultura

Metro Manila Dealers: RAON, BINONDO - Abraham Merchandising • Ampere • Ample • Apo Electronics • Armstrong Electronics • Assurance • Fair N Square • First Asian Sales • Good-Moral Merchandising • Hirose • J&R • Just Appliance • Knight Audio Room • MAK Audio Video • Milenium Electronics • Metrotech • MJS • Ohms Trader • Pacific Electronics • Prosound Electronics • Prosperous Merchandising • Rodriguez Electronics • Refuge Merchandising • Sansonic Marketing • Santech • Solid Electronics • Son And Sarah Merchandize • Soundquest Electronics • W&M Marketing • Worldwide • Zoe Electronics • **CALOOCAN** - Electroworld • Emilio S. Lim Appliances • View Plus • Welcome Home • Fair N' Square • **QUEZON CITY** - IAJ Corporation • **CUBAO** - Bethel Marketing • JB Music • MJS • Nintendo • **MANDALUYONG** -Audiophile • I-Gen Portal • Listening Room • Listening Style • RMV Audio Studio • Sights & Sounds • Virtuoso • VMZ Business Center • **MAKATI** - Earl Toy World • Electronic Boutique • Filgifts.com • Puregold Inc. • Spectra • Victronics Computers Inc. • **GREENHILLS** - Golden Sound • Silver Gate Computer • Maxx Energie Ventures • **OTHER METRO MANILA** - Audio Maxx • Amazon • Belcap • Estrellita Appliance • Hardware Exchange • Impress Commercial • Micro J • Nintendo Commercial • Save on Surplus • Work Station • PCBS • E-Pacific Global • Kabayantrading.com • Pesocard.com • **Provincial Dealers: Luzon (North)** - Addessa • Asiatic Radio Supply • BHF Appliance • CSI • Consumers Appliance Traders • Dagupan Audio Electronics • Ever Appliance • Everest Furniture & Appliance • Grace Electronics • Guanzon Merhandising • International Freeport • Jetronix • Joy's Radio Center & Record Bar • Luzon Appliance Centrum • Manhattan Marketing • Mike's Dept.Store • Solar Sales Center • Tiongsan Harrison • TSB Bazaar • Ocampo's Angeles • Ocampos Mega Store • Power Station Electronics • Psalm Music Center • Savers Mart • S&J Marketing • Soundtrack Electronics • **(South)** - Aben Marketing • Alson Trading • Allied Appliance • Audio Mix • Jayson Marketing • Jomat Marketing • Multi Brand Distributor • People's Marketing • Robertson Mall • Royal Star Appliance • Thesson's Marketing • Willy & Sons • **Visayas & Mindanao** - Appliance Centrum Bacolod / Dumaguete • Asian Home • Arcet Marketing • BCS Music Store • Better Components • Better Living Appliance Center • Bohol Quality • Cebu Appliance • Cebu Circuit City • Central Quality Appliance Plaza • Central RJ Homes • Davao Better Homes • Echo • Eco-Tech • Electelcom • Fiesta Appliance Center • First Family Appliance Circle • Golden Bell • Gloria Bazar • Gleen Marketing • Graphic All-in • GV Appliance • Holiday Appliance Plaza • KCC Mall • Lopue's Department Store • Maan Video & Sounds • Metro Plaza • Mindanao Solidmark • Music Vision • Naces Appliance • NCCC Mall • OK Dept. Store • POS Marketing • Quality Appliance • R.A. Uy Appliance • Rainbow Appliance Plaza • Reverb • R JHomes • Romstrel GeneralMerchandise • Smart Zone • Star Mark Appliance Center • Simosa Marketing • Sirlitz Consumer Electronics • Soundroom • Special Appliance Plaza • Time Express Depot • Victoria Dept. Store

Exclusively Distributed by: in-a-jiffy enterprises www.magicmic.com & G2K Corporation www.wowmagicsing.com
Showroom: Left Wing G/F Richbelt Terraces, 19 Annapolis St., Greenhills, San Juan • Tel. Nos.: (632) 725 39 94 • (632) 285-26-63 • (632) 722-55-27 • (632) 287-49-86

Text WOW to 6800* for a chance to win WOW MAGIC SING PACKAGE or 100,000.00 in cash! Log on to www.mobhub.com for details.
*for Smart Gold, Smart Buddy, Addict Mobile and Talk 'N Text subscribers. Promo period: December 16, 2005 to June 16, 2006. Per DTI NCR Permit No. 4366

Be qualified to work in
3 countries as a
GlobalChef®

at-sunrice

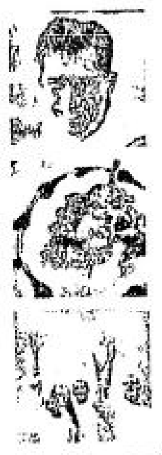
"I know what culinary excellence means to 5-star establishments. That's why we place you to work at top F&B establishments. That's the best way to the top. You study part-time and learn hands-on from award-winning Asian and Western chefs."

- Chef Christophe Megel, Chief Executive Officer at-sunrice
Second Youngest Masterchef of France
Former Executive Chef of the Ritz Carlton Millenia
Protégé of Alain Ducasse in France

at-sunrice Professional Diploma Courses

DCC: Diploma in Culinary Craft (12 months)
Build a strong foundation in culinary techniques and craft • Qualify as Commis II in one year • Intern only in top restaurants and airlines
Monthly stipend of SGD$500.00
Intakes Jul 06 / Nov 06

ACP: Advanced Culinary Placement Diploma (2 years)
Offered with the Johnson & Wales University (USA) • Develop culinary and leadership skills in culinary management • Qualify as a Chef de Partie in two years • Intern only in 5-star hotels.
Monthly stipend of SGD$750.00
Intakes Apr 06 / Jul 06 / Nov 06

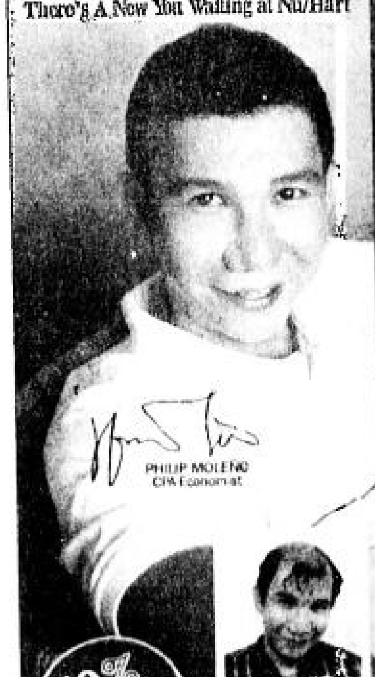


The Singapore Culinary Academy and Spice Garden

Call Inter-Ed Now!
819-1001/02
E-mail: info@inter-ed.com
2/F Trafalgar Plaza
H.V.Dela Costa St Makati

Education Partner
Internship Partners
SATS

NU/HART
HAIR CLINICS
There's A New You Waiting at Nu/Hart



"I'm proud to say this hairline was made by Nu/Hart."

I don't think it's embarassing that I had hair transplants. What is embarassing is having old friends comment on your thinning hair, having to wear cumbersome hairpieces, or using a special shampoo and comb that don't really solve the problem.

Nu/Hart offers a great solution. It's permanent, it's natural, and you know you're in good hands because they have the capability and the expertise. This option is available here now, so why not try it? It's you yourself who would benefit.

I felt assured by Nu/Hart's reputation, the intensive training of their doctors, and the experience of their previous clients. After the procedure I went back to Cebu and even went to the beach.

If you're losing your hair and are not comfortable with it, I would definitely recommend Nu/Hart.

0% INTEREST MONTHLY PAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE HSBC CARD HOLDERS ONLY

Call or visit us now for a FREE PRIVATE CONSULTATION.
638-6000
NU/HART MANILA
26/F Wynsum Plaza, 22 F. Ortigas Jr. Road (formerly Emerald Ave) Ortigas (Behind Discovery Suites)
In the U.S. Call 1-800-776-7775
Consultations Available in Bacolod, Cebu, Davao, and Iloilo.
Visit our website at www.nuhart.com or e-mail us at info@nuhart.com
MANILA • HONG KONG • NEW YORK • CHICAGO • ATLANTA • PITTSBURGH • PHILADELPHIA • PUERTO RICO • DUBAI

Students demand say in any tuition hikes

By Alcuin Papa

MILITANT STUDENTS HAVE ACCUSED THE Commission on Higher Education (CHEd) of favoring private universities when it allowed them to raise their tuition this coming school year without consulting the students.

College Editors Guild of the Philippines president Jose Cosido said that based on their latest statistics, fewer than 10 of 82 private colleges and universities had applied for tuition increases higher than the prevailing inflation rate of 7.4 percent.

This means, Cosido said, that more than 70 schools will automatically raise their tuition even without prior consultation with their students.

Under CHEd Memorandum No. 14, colleges and universities could automatically raise their tuition and other fees without consulting their students as long as the increase would not be higher than the prevailing inflation rate.

Cosido accused CHEd of being an unwitting ally of school owners who take advantage of the loophole in the memorandum to avoid having to consult with their students.

National Union of Students in the Philippines (NUSP) president Marco de los Reyes said that instead of safeguarding the interest of the students, CHEd Memorandum 14 is being used to justify tuition increases.

De los Reyes said the use of the inflation rate as the benchmark for the rate of tuition and other fee increases had allowed school owners to increase tuition and other fees at will.

He said the students are not able to contest the increases.

"NUSP stands firm that schools must still consult with their students regardless of the rate of increase of tuition and other fees," De los Reyes said.

Raymond Palatino of the Kabataan party-list group urged CHEd to "take an active role in ensuring that the rights of the students are respected, especially regarding student consultations.

"We demand that CHED Memorandum No. 14 be reviewed, now that its antistudent provisions are already being exposed and opposed by the students."

Militant students have set up Tuition Monitor (TM) where student councils and parents can text or call in their complaints to the TM Hotline 0915-892-2055.

The students hope the campaign will allow them to keep a tight watch on schools, form a broad unity against unabated tuition and other increases, and demand a moratorium on further increases next school year.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Monday, March 20, 2006
Joseph, Husband of Mary

1st Reading: 2 S 7:4-5, 12-14, 16
2nd Reading: Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22
Gospel: Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24 (or Luke 2:41-51)

Jacob was the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, and from her came Jesus who is called the Christ-the Messiah.

This is how Jesus Christ was born. Mary his mother had been given to Joseph in marriage but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit.

Then Joseph, her husband, made plans to divorce her in all secrecy. He was an upright man, and in no way did he want to discredit her.

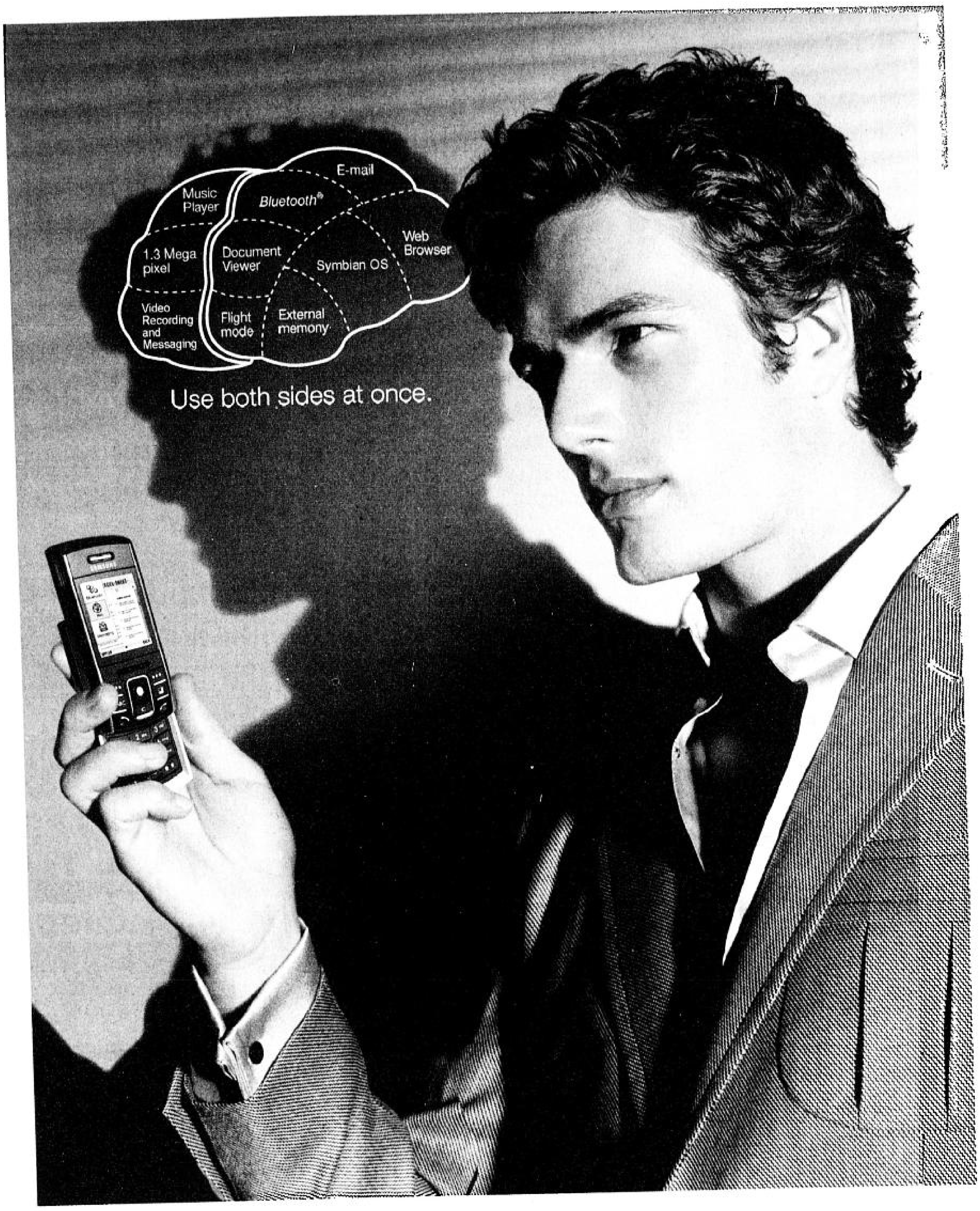
While he was pondering over this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, descendant of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. She has conceived by the Holy Spirit, and now she will bear a son. You shall call him 'Jesus' for he will save his people from their sins."

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do and he took his wife to his home.

Commentary

Though having a lineage fit for royalty—being a descendant of David—we find Joseph to be a very humble man. He is a silent person, not given to many words, and yet he is a presence that inspires. It is this same presence and humility that inspired Mary and Jesus himself. This stems from an energy that finds its source in God with whom Joseph had constant communication. And it doesn't end there, for Joseph listens and responds and trusts. Do we have that communication with God? Do we listen, respond and trust? Are we a presence that inspires?

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: cci@claret.org; Websites: http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications Inc.) & http://missionaries.claret.org (Claretians in the Philippines)



imagine a phone for ultimate multi-taskers.

The Samsung Smartphone D720 features work simultaneously like both sides of your brain. Do more than one thing at a time

- 1.3 Megapixel Camera
- Web Browser
- Document Viewer
- Offline Mode
- Music Player with Dual Speakers
- Video Recording and Messaging
- E-mail
- Symbian OS
- External Memory
- *Bluetooth*® Wireless Technology

D720

Samsung Customer Contact Center: TOLL FREE 1-800-10SAMSUNG for PLDT or 1-800-3SAMSUNG for Digitel.
www.samsung.ph

SAMSUNG

Send resumés instantly

VISIT US AT
www.jobmarketonline.com

JOB Market

NEW!
1-year Certificate in Culinary Arts
(Starting June 2006)

We Fit In.
We Stand Out.
We Rock The World!

CCA
Center for Culinary Arts, Manila

Practical Education for the Global Chef
Katipunan, Quezon City | Tel. 426-4840 to 41
marketing@cca-manila.com
www.cca-manila.com

CCA, Manila, the Philippines' pioneer in formal culinary education, continuously leads the way in the food service industry by giving you practical, hands-on education, equipping you with the much needed skills to excel in the global culinary arena.

Not only will you graduate highly competent and passionate with your craft, we'll make sure you'll bring fresh and young ideas as you face and rock the world.

Application is on going for June and August intakes:
Diploma in Culinary Arts and Management (2 years)
Diploma in Baking-Pastry Arts and Management (2 years)

1-year Certificate course options also available:
Certificate in Culinary Arts
Certificate in Baking and Pastry Arts

Enhance your diploma and earn a degree through our local and international partner schools: Miriam College, Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (Canada), Blue Mountains Hotel School (Australia), Johnson and Wales University (USA), and Le Roches School of Hotel Management (Switzerland).

Scholarships available for deserving applicants.

Chef Miguel Alba
Class 1997
President
& General Manager,
Alba Restaurant

Fewer jobless with new definition – TUCP

THE TRADE UNION Congress of the Philippines has criticized the government's use of a new definition for the word "unemployed" that purportedly led to over one million jobless Filipinos being excluded from its count, resulting in a survey reporting a lower unemployment rate.

TUCP general secretary Ernesto Herrera said the group reviewed the results of the January 2006 National Labor Force Survey and found that 1.1 million Filipinos who were out of work were not included in the unemployment count.

"Government should call a spade a spade and avoid window-dressing national unemployment statistics," said Herrera, a former senator.

According to a TUCP statement, the government officially redefined "unemployed" in October 2004 through a National Statistical Coordination Board resolution, which the National Statistics Office adopted in April 2005.

The new definition of "unemployed" covers people aged 15 and above who meet three criteria: They are without work; they are willing to work, and they are either seeking work or not seeking it for valid reasons.

The old definition listed only two criteria: Those without work and those who are seeking work or not seeking it due to valid reasons.

Based on the new more stringent definition, the NSO's National Labor Force Survey determined that 2.8 million Filipinos were unemployed in January 2006, translating to an 8.1 percent unemployment rate.

Herrera said the NSO itself acknowledged that if the old definition had been used in the survey, 3.9 million Filipinos would have been considered unemployed in January 2006 and the unemployment rate would have been 10.7 percent.

Herrera said the government should review and revise the official definition of "unemployed" to accurately reflect prevailing labor market conditions. *Leila B. Salaverria*

Special Promo Package
HONGKONG
BANGKOK
SINGAPORE
BUDGET FARES: HONGKONG $85 · BANGKOK $165 · SINGAPORE $195 · VANCOUVER $765 · OSAKA $370 · TOKYO $435 · LAX / SFO $795 · HONOLULU $735 · AUSTRALIA $610 · NEW YORK $895 · NAGOYA $430 · TAIPEI $265 · SEOUL $485 · TORONTO $1,000
KUALA LUMPUR PACKAGE $219 · SINGAPORE MALAYSIA INDONESIA $316
2 NITES SHENZHEN W/O DISNEYLAND $98 · 2 NITES SHENZEN W/DISNEYLAND $148
OTHER INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC TICKETS/PACKAGES ARE AVAILABLE
WE ALSO OFFER PASSPORTING VISA ASSISTANCE & NSO
SANS TRAVEL & TOURS
ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Colors of Flying
HOLIDAY TREAT
HOLY WEEK BLOCKINGS - HONGKONG / BANGKOK / K LUMPUR / K LUMPUR + GENTING HLANDS AVAILABLE
HONGKONG + SHENZHEN $98 · HONGKONG $118 · HKG W/DISNEYLAND DAY TOUR $168 · MACAU $168 · KOTA KINABALU $148 · BANGKOK $193 · SINGAPORE $145 · KUALA LUMPUR $208 · KLUMPUR + GENTING HLANDS $228
SINGAPORE + KUALA LUMPUR $285 · SING + MALAYSIA + INDO $208 · XIAMEN $286 · GUAM $325 · WEST COAST (Land Arrangement Only) $424 · SEOUL $515 · JAPAN $529 · AUSTRALIA $589 · SCANDINAVIA W/RUSSIA $2888
Member: PTAA RE-2005-341
COLORS TRAVEL & TOURS
Rm. 611 Pacific Bldg., Quintin Paredes St., Binondo Manila
Tel: 241-6175 Tel/Fax: 242-0790 Mobile: 0922-8120961 & 0922-8120963
Email: ctt@colors-travel.com

HONGKONG Disneyland for as LOW as
Full tour package PLUS Breakfast with MICKEY $97
*hotel *Disney ticket *city tour *transfers *meals *tour guide
HONGKONG / BANGKOK / SINGAPORE / NEPAL / INDIA / CHINA / BEIJING / SHANGHAI / SHENZHEN / SEOUL / DUBAI / UAE / EUROPE LA / SFO / VANCOUVER / NEWARK / AUSTRALIA / KUALA LUMPUR and other destinations...

MARIAN EUROPE PILGRIMAGE
WITH FATIMA & LOURDES & MORE
DEPARTING: APRIL 05, 24 & MAY 15, 2006
HOLYLAND PILGRIMAGE
WITH JORDAN - ISRAEL & EGYPT
DEPARTING: MARCH 27, APRIL 21 & MAY 20, 2006
SCANDINAVIA AND RUSSIA
BY MOTORCOACH - SIGHTSEEING
DEPARTING: MAY 24, 2006
PLUS OTHER SUMMER DEPARTURES!!
CONTACT YOUR FAVORITE TRAVEL AGENT OR
travelplan, inc.
ESTABLISHED 1968
#620 Remedios St., Malate, Manila
Tel. Nos.: 525-4564 • 523-2157 • 521-8524 • 524-1409
Trunkline Nos.: 523-8290 to 92 • Fax No.: 521-6403
E-mail: tvplan@skyinet.net

CANTON+HONGKONG+SHENZHEN $98
HONGKONG+DISNEYLAND $148
HONGKONG FREE&EASY · KOTA KINABALU · SINGAPORE · BANGKOK PACKAGE · EXOTIC INDIA · HOLYLAND TOUR
5D/4N SHENZHEN · 4D/3N SHANGHAI · KUALA LUMPUR+GENTING · SINGAPORE+MALAYSIA+INDONESIA · EUROPEAN ESSENTIALS · SCANDINAVIA WITH RUSSIA $2888
HOLYWEEK BLOCKINGS
BANGKOK $299 · SINGAPORE $285 · SHENZHEN-HONGKONG $118 · HONGKONG w/ DISNEY $168
BORACAY P2334 · PALAWAN P5840
PROMO AIRFARE
HONGKONG $85 · BANGKOK $180 · XIAMEN $235 · SINGAPORE $255 · NAGOYA $365 · KUALA LUMPUR $175 · GUAM $275 · VANCOUVER $915 · LAX/SFO $735 · SYDNEY/BRISBANE $425 · LOS ANGELES $515 · NEW JERSEY $565 · PARIS $765
FIRST TIME IMMIGRANT FARES AT VERY LOW PRICE!!!
VISA ASSISTANCE, PASSPORT PROCESSING, DOMESTIC TICKETS & LOCAL PACKAGES, CAR RENTALS, HOTEL RESERVATIONS & EDUCATIONAL TOURS
AIR TRAVEL GUIDE & TOURS, INC.
2nd Floor Unit C Davis Bldg., A. Mabini cor. Sta. Monica Sts., Ermita, Manila
Tels.: 400-3013 / 303-1410 / 303-3608 / 303-1916 Fax: 522-0354
Cell# 0917-3295594 / 0922-8788871 E-mail: airtrvlguide@amadeusph.com
ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

AIRFARES | EXCITING PACKAGES
Hongkong $80 · Bangkok $182 · Kuala Lumpur $158 · Singapore $199 · PAR/LON/ROM/FRA $764 · LAX $498 · San Francisco $585 · Australia $428 · Aukland $618 · New York $548 · Seoul $341 · Shanghai $318 · Siemrep $486 · Cambodia $341
2nites HONGKONG + DISNEY TOUR $198 · 3nites BANGKOK PACKAGE $188 · KUALA LUMPUR $224 · 2n BANGKOK + 2n HONGKONG $368 · KUALA LUMPUR + BANGKOK $395 · SINGAPORE + KUALA LUMPUR $385 · 2SINGAPORE + 2HONGKONG $430 · SINGAPORE + BANGKOK + HONGKONG $546 · 2HONGKONG + 2KUALA LUMPUR $435 · 2n SINGAPORE PACKAGE (PAL) $246 · BANGKOK + ANKOR WAT $494 · 1n HONGKONG + 1n SHENZHEN $98 · 4nites HONGKONG-BEIJING $299 · 6nites HKG+BEIJING+SHANGHAI $389 · EUROPEAN ADVENTURE $2960
BORACAY 4588 · PALAWAN 5740 / BOHOL 4990 · CEBU 5929 / DAVAO 6829 · CEBU+BOHOL 11999
MBO TOURS AND TRAVEL SERVICES
2/F MC Bldg. 1095 Pablo Ocampo corner Conchu Sts., Malate, Manila
Tel. Nos.: 530-8234 / 521-4744 / 522-1107 / 484-3583 / 484-3582
09215785094 / 09172757128 / mbo_tourstravelservices@yahoo.com

TRAVEL PLAZA INCORPORATED
PROMO TICKETS: HONGKONG $85 · SINGAPORE $200 · BANGKOK $220 · TAIPEI $240 · JAPAN $350 · KUALA LUMPUR $160 · XIAMEN $226 · AUSTRALIA $470 · LOS ANGELES $500 · NEW YORK $550 · ROME/FRANKFURT $760 · GUAM $270
INT'L PACKAGE: 3D2N SHENZHEN+HKG $128 · 3D2N HKG+SZN+DISNEY $178 · 3D2N HONGKONG $286 · BANGKOK PKG $198 · SINGAPORE PKG $252 · KUALA LUMPUR PKG $222 · SAIGON PACKAGE $289 · GUAM PACKAGE $330
(ALL PACKAGES EXCLUDING TAXES)
DOMESTIC PACKAGE: BOHOL PKG P5505 · BORACAY PKG P6845 · DAVAO PKG P6320 · CEBU PKG P5265 · PALAWAN PKG P5685 · CAGAYAN PKG P7370
Other INTERNATIONAL and DOMESTIC TICKETS/PACKAGES are available. We also offer PASSPORTING/VISA ASSISTANCE & other documentation needs
1089 Pablo Ocampo Street, Malate, Manila
Tel.: 524-1405 / 524-0987 / 524-1477
0917-8003641 / 0919-5321555 JO/PAUL

Where You Find The Best. JOB Market
YOUR CONNECTION TO BETTER PEOPLE, BETTER JOBS

MEGA SAVER'S PACKAGE
3D/2N CAN/HKG/SZX $128 · CAN/HKG/SZX H. WEEK SPECIAL $138 · 3D/2N CAN/HKG/SZX+DISNEY $178 · CAN/HKG/SZX+DISNEY H. WEEK SPECIAL $188 · BRUNEI PACKAGE $350 · BANGKOK $244 · SINGAPORE $290 · SIN/MALAYSIA $386 · SIN/MAL/INDO $316 · SHANGHAI (F. Board) $351 · KUALA LUMPUR $239 · MACAU $159 · BANGKOK/PATTAYA $296 · BANGKOK/HKG $379 · SINGAPORE/HKG $529 · BKK/SIN/HKG $559 · GUAM $358
BEIJING (F. Board) $468 · BRUNEI $283 · SEOUL $548 · JAKARTA $378 · KUALA+GEN. H. LAND $259
BORACAY · PALAWAN · PUERTO GALERA · CAMIGUIN ISLAND · NEGROS NAV. TICKET · PASSPORT PROCESSING
LOS ANGELES via CX $750 · SAN FRANCISCO via CX $790 · SYD/MEL/BNE/ADL $490 · FRANKFURT/ROME $780
Seven Seas Travel and Tours
Unit 118 CK CY DIAMOND BLDG. LIBERTAD, PASAY CITY

AFFORDABLE PACKAGES: HONGKONG Regular package $226 · DISNEY holyweek $493 · w/ Bangkok $379 · w/Singapore $527 · w Bangkok Singapore $559 · w/ Seoul $719
BANGKOK BLOCKINGS $193 · REGULAR $225 · w/ PATTAYA $294
SINGAPORE FREE & EASY $250 · w/ MALAYSIA & INDONESIA $314 · w/ MALAYSIA $386
SHENZHEN w DISNEY via CANTON $148 · w/o DISNEY via CANTON $98 · w/ BEIJING + SHANGHAI $399
KUALA LUMPUR FREE & EASY $235 · WEEKEND PROMO $225 · w/ Genting Highlands $255
MACAU $199 · BRUNEI $299 · SAIGON $284 · SHANGHAI $330 · JAKARTA $368 · BEIJING $423 · SEOUL $542
BUDGET AIRFARES
LAX/SFO $588 · via MH $488 · NEWYORK $653 / $548 · AUSTRALIA $425 · HONGKONG $180 · CANADA $590 · EUROPE $675 · SINGAPORE $203 · AUCKLAND $620 · BANGKOK $178
Joy Holiday Tours & Travel
RM 301, 3/F CABRERA 2 BLDG. #04 TIMOG AVENUE, QC
TEL #S: 410-9488, 410-4000, 410-9117, 411-9081, 410-0200, 410-4801
WE ALSO OFFER VISA CONSULTANT
WE DELIVER TICKETS AT NO EXTRA COST!!!
(WITHIN METRO MANILA ONLY)

Magellan World Travel, Inc.
Shenzhen with Hongkong $128 · 4D/3N Singapore-Malaysia-Indonesia 319 · Shenzhen-Hongkong Disneyland 178 · 4D/3N Hongkong-Shenzhen-Macau 325 · 5D/4N Hongkong-Shenzhen-Shanghai 409 · 3D/2N@DISNEYLAND Hongkong 415 · 8D/7N Shenzhen-Shanghai-Beijing FULLBOARD 539 · 14Days European Encounter 2388 · 15Days Scandanavia w/ Russia 2888 · 4D/3N Sydney, Australia 600 · Vietnam Business Opportunity/Investment Package 1466
TICKET ONLY: Hongkong 86 · Singapore 205 · Bangkok 170 · Kuala Lumpur 160 · Saigon 225 · Seoul 468 · Tokyo 430 · Shanghai 340 · Taipei 238 · Xiamen 212 · Australia 425 · Los Angeles 500 · Vancouver 745 · Paris 775
Hongkong $249 · Bangkok $196 · Singapore $255 · Vietnam $366
DOMESTIC TICKETS AND PACKAGES ALSO AVAILABLE

as low as US$ HONG KONG 98 SHENZHEN PACKAGE
3D HongKong+ daytour Disney US$ 148 · 3D HongKong US$ 194 · 4D HongKong Shenzhen Disneyland US$ 198
3D HongKong+ overnight Disney US$ 232 · 3D2N HOLY WEEK PACKAGES · CRUISE SCANDINAVIA & RUSSIA
ALSO AVAILABLE OTHER HONG KONG PACKAGES BUDGET AIRFARES / DOMESTIC PACKAGE SINGAPORE & BANGKOK PACKAGES
IMAGE TRAVEL & TOURS 4040356 TO 58 / 5234226 / 5235830 / 5236201 / 4042176 image@amadeusph.com
SUNBRIGHT TOURS 5224709 / 5236817 / 5240664 / 5240898 / 5234616 / 5244248 suntravel@pacific.net.ph

PACKAGE PROMO
SHENZHEN PACKAGE $99 · CANTON+SHENZHEN+HONGKONG $128 · CANTON-SZN-HKG+ DISNEY TOUR $178 · BANGKOK PACKAGE $214 · SINGAPORE PROMO PACKAGE $248 · SINGAPORE+MALAYSIA+INDONESIA $258 · SINGAPORE+KUALA LUMPUR PACKAGE $355 · KUALA LUMPUR PACKAGE $205
MACAU Pkg $159 · SAIGON Pkg $330 · SEOUL Pkg $578 · GUAM Pkg $445 · SAIPAN Pkg $425 · PALAU Pkg $535 · SYDNEY Pkg $639 · GOLD COAST Pkg $619
INT'L TICKETS: HONGKONG $85 · BANGKOK $188 · SINGAPORE $203 · NAGOYA $375 · AUSTRALIA $430 · NEW ZEALAND $630 · GUAM $360 · HONOLULU $618 · LOS ANGELES $500 · NEW YORK $550 · VANCOUVER $740 · TORONTO $865 · EUROPE $675
DOMESTIC PKG: PUERTO GALERA P3,500 · LAOAG P5,360 · BORACAY P3,765 · PALAWAN P3,665 · CEBU P3,165 · BOHOL P4,065 · BACOLOD P3,765 · ILOILO P3,465 · DAKAK P7,315 · CAGAYAN DE ORO P5,265 · DAVAO P4,265
WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARD PAYMENT
PATISSE INT'L TRAVEL & TOURS
G/F LBB2 BLDG. 1933 SAN ANDRES ST. MALATE, MLA.
TEL: 5272330/5272348/4007701 Fax: 02/5236954 Fax: 4007705 Cell: 0920-9510896/0919-2841767

Send resumés instantly
VISIT US AT www.jobmarketonline.com
JOB Market ONLINE

MAGICAL JOURNEYS PROMO
CANTON+HONGKONG+SHENZHEN $128 · CANTON+HONGKONG+SHENZHEN+DISNEY $178 · MACAU $158 · SHANGHAI $189 · BANGKOK $198
MACAU+HKG+SZN $218 · KUALA LUMPUR $205 · KUALA+GENTING $228 · SINGAPORE $248 · BANGKOK+PATTAYA $260
BANGKOK+PHUKET $299 · BANGKOK+HONGKONG $305 · SINGAPORE+KUALA $388 · SINGAPORE MALAY INDO $308 · BRUNEI+BANGKOK $328
SHENZHEN+SHANGHAI $359 · SAIGON $329 · GUAM $328 · CANTON TRADE FAIR $339 · JAKARTA+SINGAPORE $528
"HOLYWEEK BLOCKINGS" AVAILABLE 1ST COME 1ST SERVE
LOCAL TOURS: SUBIC (SAFARI TOUR) P990 · CORREGIDOR P1690 · PALAWAN P3175 · CEBU P2860 · BORACAY P4565 · BOHOL P3470 · DAVAO P3865 · PUERTO GALERA P2285 · ILOILO P3385 · BANAUE+SAGADA P5593
BUDGET FARES: LOS ANGELES $500 · SAN FRANCISCO $738 · SAN JOSE/CHICAGO/JFK $808 · NEWARK $550 · SYD BRISBANE MELBOURNE $428 · PAR/FRA/LON $758 · VANCOUVER $738 · KUALA LUMPUR $160 · XIAMEN $188 · BANGKOK $172 · SINGAPORE $205 · HONGKONG $215
DOLJUNTS INT'L TRAVEL & TOURS
Suite 1012, City & Land Mega Plaza, Tower, ADB Avenue cor. Garnet Road Ortigas Commercial Center, Pasig City
MOBILE: 0920-7893648, 0919-6826025; 0919-2951086
914-0398 to 99 · 687-2818 · 687-2739 · 687-2808 · 687-2984 · 687-2808

Got travel? Think Winlink.
It's a great time to travel!
BREAKFAST AT HONG KONG DISNEY w/ 3D HONG KONG-SHENZHEN Starting at $322
MEDICAL INSURANCE and PERSONAL TRAVEL ASSISTANCE BY assist-card
Disneyland Day Tour Family Package (3D) 268 · 1N HKG/1N SZX w/ Disneyland Day Tour 199
Disneyland Day Tour Family Package (4D) 283 · 2N HKG/2N SZX w/ Disneyland Day Tour & Windows of the World 309
Disneyland Overnight Family Package (3D) 292 · 1N HKG/2N SZX w/ Disneyland Day Tour & Windows of the World 259
HOLY WEEK 3D CANTON-HONG KONG-SHENZHEN W/ DISNEYLAND DAY TOUR 188
3D CANTON & SHENZHEN AS LOW AS $98 · 4D HONG KONG SHENZHEN AS LOW AS $99
4D Shanghai 189 · 3D/2N Shenzhen w/ HK Disney Day Tour 148
3D/2N Hong Kong Regular Package 240 · 4D Bangkok 209
2N Bangkok+ 2N Hong Kong 302 · 4D Singapore+Malaysia and Indonesia 352
4D Canton Fair 339 · 6D Singapore+ Kuala Lumpur 393
1N Shanghai+ 2N Beijing 369 · Saigon+ Hong Kong 408
Best of The USA West Coast 1,148 · 6D/6N Vietnam and Cambodia 750
9D/7N New Zealand N&S Kaleidoscope 1,958 · 8D Australian Adventure 1,388
10D HOLY LAND TOUR PACKAGE 1,678 · 4D CAPITALS OF EASTERN EUROPE 2,068
BLOCKBUSTER BUDGET AIRFARES: US West Coast 735 · US East Coast 838 · London UK 668 · Vancouver CA 738
3D Boracay P8,260 · 3D Palawan P7,020
CALL US NOW FOR MORE USA, EUROPE, AND ASIAN DESTINATIONS!
WINLINK TRAVEL
CDC Bldg., 1195 M. Orosa St., Ermita, Manila, Philippines 1000
Fax • (632) 524-5869 / 526-2201 · 24HR Textline • (0918)349-8685
E-mail • winlink@mydestiny.net · winlink_pkg@pldtdsl.net
(632) 525-6306 · 522-5446 · 522-7738 · 404-1231 · 404-1249
CUT AND SAVE · MARCH 20 2006

HONEY HOLIDAYS
8D TAIWAN NEW DISCOVERY HIGHLIGHTS $688up
10D TAIWAN+HKG W/ DISNEYLAND $799
9D SYDNEY+MELBOURNE PHILIP ISLAND+CANBERRA +BLUE MOUNTAIN $1470
6D KUALA LUMPUR+GENTING +SUNWAY LAGOON+MALACCA +SINGAPORE $558
4D HONGKONG $339up
5D HKG+SHENZHEN $298up
5D HONGKONG $399up
4D 1N HKG+ 2N SHENZHEN $188up
5D BEIJING $299up
5D SHANGHAI $228up
5D SHANGHAI +HKG W/ Disneyland $388
8D BEIJING+SHANGHAI +HKG W/ Disneyland $535up
8D BEIJING+SHANGHAI FULLBOARD $399up
8D XIAN+BEIJING+SHANGHAI $535up
4D BANGKOK $299up
5D BANGKOK+PATTAYA FULLBOARD Every Thursday $339up
6D BANGKOK +ANGKOR WAT FULLBOARD Every Tuesday $567
8D JAPAN TOUR (OSAKA+KYOTO+UNIVERSAL STUDIOS+NAGOYA +MT. FUJI+YOKOHAMA+TOKYO) $1888
12D NEW YORK+PHILADELPHIA +WASHINGTON DC+NIAGARA FALLS +KUALA FULLBOARD $1999
8D KOREA+SHANGHAI +SHENZHEN FULLBOARD $599
SPECIAL PROMO
4D HONG KONG + SHENZHEN w/ Disneyland $199
4D SHANGHAI 4 Star Hotel $238
8D BEIJING-SHANGHAI $299
MAKATI 892-8631 to 36 / 892-4704 to 05 · BINONDO 247-1456 to 57 · ERMITA 522-1021 to 22 · STA. CRUZ 783-4254, 711-6776 · CAMANAVA 283-3376 / 270-4376 · SAN JUAN 722-6514 / 700-2814 · ORTIGAS 633-6588 / 634-6388 · CALOOCAN 455-2642 / 454-3184 · CEBU 231-8693 / 231-8935 · ROSA ANG 0917-5268838 * 0922-8113838
JUAN 243-8383 to 84 · SAMPALOC 740-3687 / 416-5371 · Q.C. 433-6613 / 433-5514 / 626-6203 · COMMONWEALTH 952-7995 · NOVALICHES 930-5887 · MANDALUYONG 747-3075 to 78 · ALABANG 842-2434 / 842-2403 · PAMPANGA 861-2020 / 892-2020 · DUMAGUETE 225-3914 / 225-7280 · DAVAO 225-3246 / 207-4800 · LORIE 0917-6270158

Travel Safe... Travel Sure... Travel with Us... FREE GROUP TRAVEL INSURANCE!!!
$765 SPRING PACKAGE DEP. DATE: MAR 28-APR 01; APRIL 27-MAY 01
$795 SPRINGPACKAGE DEP. DATE: APRIL 9-13 Hurry! BOOK NOW FEW SEATS LEFT!
The Premium Provider of KOREA Packages
$950 EXOTIC INDIA DELHI/AGRA/JAIPUR DEP. DATE: APRIL 11-16
$795 CAMBODIA & VIETNAM SAIGON/SIEMREP DEP. DATE: APR 11-16
$885 THE BEST OF INDO CHINA SAIGON/SIEMREP/PNOMPENH DEP. DATE: APR 29- MAY 5
$1750 AUSTRALIA MELBOURNE, BRISBANE, GOLDCOAST, SYDNEY DEP. DATE: MAY 6-13
PACKAGES: SEOUL $585 · SAIGON $355 · HONGKONG $365 · KULALUMPUR $270 · SINGAPORE $290 · BANGKOK $285 · SYDNEY $700 · MELBOURNE $695
INCLUSIONS: RT AIRFARE · RT TRANSFERS · HOTEL ACCOM. · DAILY BREAKFAST · CITY TOUR · *NO TOUR
PROMOFARES: SEOUL $466 · SINGAPORE $205 · BANGKOK $225 · HONGKONG $255 · SAIGON $225 · SIEM REP $405 · MACAU $250 · KUAL $175 · JAKARTA $385 · KOTAKINABALU $270 · XIAMEN $231 · OSAKA $350 · NARITA $430 · NAGOYA $470 · FUKUOKA $420 · LAX/SFO $780 · SEATTLE $040 · HNL $020 · GUAM $361 · ATL/WAS $1000 · NEWARK $840 · VANCOUVER $740 · TORONTO $865 · SYD/MEL $520 · PAR/AMS/ROM $870 · LONDON $820
RAKSO AIR TRAVEL & TOURS INC.
G/F All Seasons Bldg., 112 Aguirre St., Legaspi Village, Makati City
Trunk No. 812-9667 Fax No. 8402484; 812-8035
E-mail address: rakso@mozcom.com; ling_rakso@yahoo.com
IATA · PTAA

China Panorama
B1 Beijing 3 - 4 Days
B2-3 Beijing, Tianjin, Chengde, Qinhuangdao 5 - 6 Days
C1B-6 Beijing, Shanghai 6 Days — Tues, Fri, Sun 4/04 - 4/13 Daily
C1B6T Beijing w/express train to Shanghai 6 Days
H1 Shanghai 3 - 4 Days — Fri, Sat, Sun 4/04 - 4/13 Daily
H2-3 Shanghai, Suzhou, Hangzhou 4 - 6 Days
C1A Beijing, Xian, Guilin 6 - 8 Days — Tuesday
C1B Beijing, Shanghai, Guilin 6 - 8 Days — Tuesday, Friday
C1C Beijing, Xian, Shanghai, Guilin 6 - 10 Days — Tuesday, Sunday
RAMADA PLAZA · NEW WORLD Mayfair Hotel · THE MARCO POLO · nikko hotels international · SHERATON
A1 Yantze River (Three Gorges) Cruise Tour — New Century Cruise Deluxe 5 Star • Century Star • Viking Century Sky • Viking Century Sun — Departure: 4/10, 4/24, 5/08, 5/22, 6/05 (conjunction tour available)
C3 Pearl River Delta Tour 4 - 6 Days
C4 Southwest China Scenic Tour 6 - 9 Days
Shangri-la, Tibet 8 Days
C5 East China 6 - 8 Days
C6 Northeast China 8 - 9 Days
C7 Central China Cultural Tour 7 - 8 Days
C8 Jiuzhaigou National Park 6 - 8 Days
C9 Zhangjiajie National Forest Park 6 - 8 Days
C10 Silk Road 8 - 14 Days
D Mount Putuo Pilgrimage 4 Days
MEDICAL INSURANCE and PERSONAL TRAVEL ASSISTANCE by assist-card
For more details pls. contact your nearest travel agency or . . .
PANDA TRAVEL SERVICE INC.
479 - 481 Sto. Cristo Street, Binondo, Manila
Tels.: 242-2585 Trunk line Fax . 242-2650 ; 242-2652
http://www.pandatour.com
2005 MOST OUTSTANDING CHINA TOUR SPECIALIST
PTAA

GREAT TRAVEL DEALS
PILGRIMAGE DEPARTURE: MAY 16
EGYPT, ISRAEL and EUROPE MARIAN Pilgrimage Highlights Lourdes, Siena, Assisi and San Giovanni (Padre Pio) with Father Egal De Jesus as Spiritual Director. USD3,789
EXTENSIVE EGYPT and ISRAEL TOUR with 2Nites BANGKOK FREE – Visit St. Catherine, Mt. Sinai NILE RIVER CRUISE with Dinner and Show JERUSALEM Bethlehem DEAD SEA and many more with Father Egal De Jesus as Spiritual Director. USD1,972
BANGKOK PACKAGE For as low as: USD253
SIAM OCEAN WORLD - The biggest, newest attraction in BANGKOK right inside the SIAM PARAGON, a world-class shopping destination
LOS ANGELES 4-in-1 PACKAGE For as low as: USD878
SINGAPORE PACKAGE 4Days • 3Nites For as low as: USD345
OTHER DESTINATIONS: LOCAL & INTERNATIONAL ALSO AVAILABLE
ARK TRAVEL EXPRESS
Unit LG, 3 & 4 Altaro Place, 146 Altaro St., Salcedo Vill., Makati City
Tel. Nos: 893-7306 • 893-4979 • 893-7277 · 892-2259 • 816-1999 • 819-3291
e-mail: ark travel@pacific.net
PTAA

COPIERS Sales/ Rentals

RICOH • Canon • Olivetti • Savin

Also Available : LIQUID COPIERS

P11,000. ONLY POWDER TYPE FT 3320, 15 CPM

BRAND NEW CANON IR 1210 BEST FOR BUS. P 39,950. ONLY

P20,000. ONLY RECON RICOH FT 3813 BEST FOR BUSINESS

BRAND NEW CANON FC 208 FOR PERSONAL USE P15,000. ONLY

PARTS & SUPPLIES AVAILABLE FOR MOST COPIER BRANDS.

COPYTRADE®
Copytrade Bldg 550 MF Jhocson St. Sampaloc, Manila (Beside Nat'l Univ)
Tels. 749-8155 to 56
781-3472 • 749-8216
www.copytrade.com.ph

- RINGBINDERS / LAMINATORS CUTTERS/BLUEPRINT/RISO
- FAX MACHINES, ETC.
- ACCEPT COPIER RENTALS FOR SHORT EVENTS
- BUY/TRADE-IN OLD COPIERS

EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY
A Training and Development Center
established since 1968
4/F, Manila Astral Tower, 1330 Taft Ave. cor.P. Faura, Manila
Tel. Nos. 521-8236; 524-5323; 524-6813 Fax: 526-4789

SCHEDULE OF SEMINARS IN *MARCH 2006*

- ACCOUNTING FOR NON-ACCOUNTANT
  March 25 - April 29, 2006 Saturday 9:00 AM -12:00 NN
- SUPERVISORY DEVELOPMENT & LEADERSHIP TRAINING
  March 27 - April 7, 2006 M-W-F 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
- PERT/CPM
  March 25 - April 22, 2006 Saturday 9:00 AM - 12:00 NN
- PROJECT MANAGEMENT
  March 25 - April 8, 2006 Saturday 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
- BUSINESS LETTERS AND REPORT WRITING
  March 27 - April 7, 2006 M-W-F 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
- CREDIT AND COLLECTION
  March 25 - April 8, 2006 Saturday 1:00 PM- 5:00 PM
- ASSERTIVENESS TRAINING FOR MGRS. AND SUPERVISORS
  April 1, 2006 Saturday 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
- INCOME AND BUSINESS TAXES FOR BUSINESS EXECUTIVE AND PROFESSIONALS
  March 25, 2006 Saturday 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
- PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL
  March 25, 2006 Saturday 1:00 PM -5:00 PM
- HUMAN RELATIONS
  March 28 & 30, 2006 T-Th 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

EDA Training Programs are accredited by
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

EDA Courses are also available on
Tutorial or In–house basis

idec®
AIRCONDITION
The New Split Type Aircon

Wall-Mounted
1hp-P16,500
1.5hp-P18,500, 2hp-P25,000, 2.5hp-P30,000

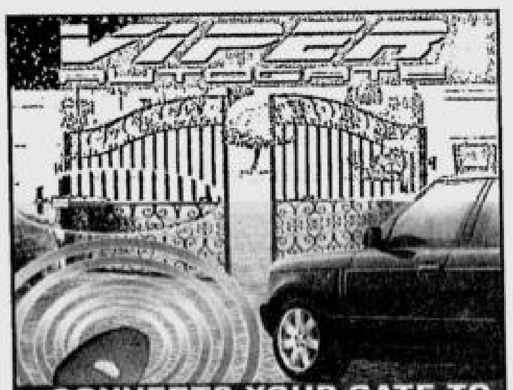
Floor Mounted
3hp-P39,500 5hp-P55,000

Free Installation!
Call:2432610,2414731
Available@MC Fort, Makati & Ortigas
Cebu-(032)3465498 Davao-(082)2358821

HAVE A SMASHING SUMMER!
Study at
VERNON TAPALLA'S
COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALISTS
and THE WRITING INSTITUTE
BIG DISCOUNT PACKAGES

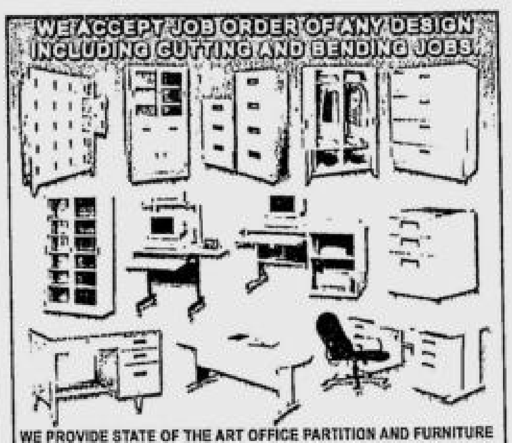
- SCB The Success & Confidence Building Program
- CP1 On Speech Improvement, Effective Self-Presentations & Personality Development
- CP2 On Grammar & Conversational English
- CP3 On Public Speaking & Leadership Training
- WP1 On Business & Technical Writing
- WP2 On Feature & Creative Writing
- JCP On Speech, Grammar, Public Speaking, Confidence Bldg., Personality Dev't., + Reading and Comprehension **for kids**

PRIVATE TUTORING & CORPORATE TRAINING ARE AVAILABLE.
MAKATI - 892-9502 / 892-9503 ALABANG - 845-0886



CONVERTS YOUR GATE TO REMOTE CONTROLLED
VIPER SWING P 35,000 VIPER SLIDE P 45,000
For Free Installation!
Call:2432610,2414731
Available@MC Fort, Makati & Ortigas
Cebu-(032)3465498 Davao-(082)2358821

WE ACCEPT JOB ORDER OF ANY DESIGN INCLUDING CUTTING AND BENDING JOBS.



WE PROVIDE STATE OF THE ART OFFICE PARTITION AND FURNITURE CABINETS, LOCKERS, COMMON DESKS, EXECUTIVE DESKS, COMPUTER TABLES, CONFERENCE TABLES, CHAIRS, OPEN SHELVES, ETC.

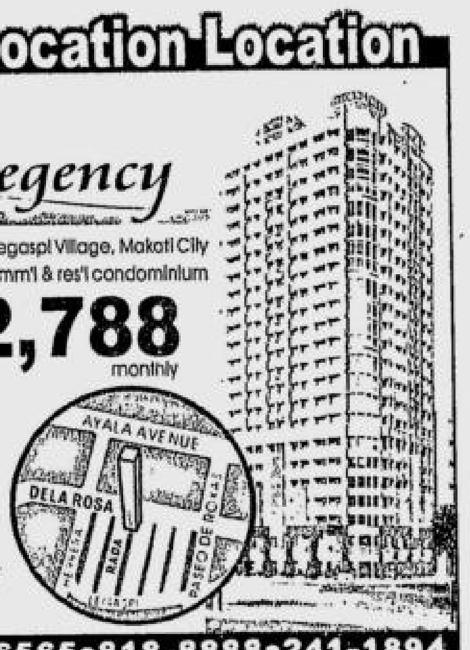
MODULAR METAL PHILIPPINES INC.
86 East Drive St. Parang, Marikina City
Tels.: 948-7729, 948-7730 Telefax: 942-1363
E-mail: spacio888@yahoo.com
"OUR EXPORT QUALITY FOR HOME AND OFFICE"

WE SELL RENT
Exhibit & Promo Systems
MADE IN SWEDEN
Tel.: 822-1477
823-6129
Cell.: 0917-8132018
TRANSAD ADVERTISING INC
Email: transadinc@yahoo.com
transadinc@hotmail.com

Location Location Location

NEW
Rada Regency
Rada St., Legaspi Village, Makati City
24-storey comm'l & res'l condominium
Own a unit for as low as **P12,788** monthly

CITYLAND
Leading Condominium Developer
Presidential Awardee
2005 CNBC Asia Business Leader Awards Honor Roll
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



812-2222•243-6565•818-8888•241-1894
WWW.CITYLAND.NET INVESTMENT@CITYLAND.NET

CALL THE INQUIRER CUSTOMER SERVICE HOTLINE
896-6000

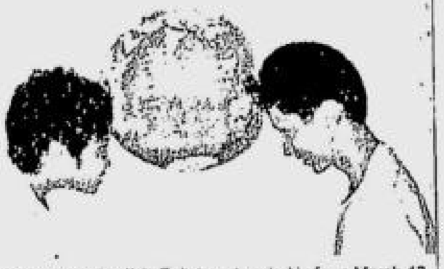
DON'T MISS YOUR COPY!

SPECIAL PROMO!!! **P16,500**
Plus 8 Telephone Units
Authorized sub-dealer:
Panasonic PABX
(Brand New)
PANASONIC MAIN SYSTEM
- 3 Lines 8 Locals
- 8 Lines 56 Locals
- 600 Locals Expandable

FREE DEMO
Authorized sub-dealer
intel Communication Corp.
116 Aurelio Bldg 1, 9th Ave Caloocan City
363-1083 • 364-8277

LANGUAGES INTERNATIONALE
Express. Articulate. Communicate.

English Fun at Summer time!



Classes start on April 3. Enlistment period is from March 13 to April 1. Maximum of 10 students per class. Fees are inclusive of materials and snacks

- English at Play (5-7 years old)
- English at Work (8-12 years old)
- Talking Teens (13-16 years old)

Summer classes for Children (8-12 years old) and Teens (13-16 years old) are available for Spanish, French, German, Japanese, and Mandarin

We also offer language courses for adults and young professionals

2/F Languages International Bldg. 926 A. Arnaiz Ave., Makati
Tel. No: : 810-7765 • 810-7971 • 810-7972

2/F Torres Bldg. Kalipunan Ave., Quezon City
Tel. Nos.: 426-6930 • 426-6931

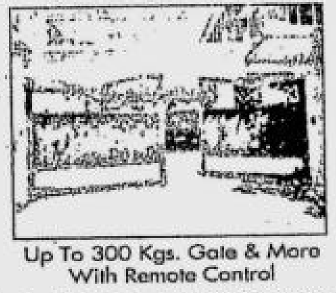
Enjoy a relaxing **EASTER** in a first class
Eco-tourism resort
Costa Aguada
ISLAND RESORT
Inampulugan Island, Sibunag, Guimaras, Philippines
DOUBLE ROOM – **P10,665** for 2 persons
QUADRUPLE ROOM – **P19,100** for 4 persons
2N/ 3D ACCM * 6 BUFFET MEALS * RT TRANSFERS via Bacolod
ISLAND TRAM TOUR * JUNGLE TREK * CAVE EXPLORATION * ETC.
Offer good from APRIL 13 –16,2006

CALL NOW!
752-3688 * 890-5543 * 890-5333 loc.513/ 514
Makati Office: G/F Oppen Bldg., 349 Sen Gil Puyat Ext. Makati City Telefax (632) 896-5422
Bacolod Office: 24th St. Lacson St., Mandalagan, Bacolod City

P10,000 Off The Price... For Your 24-Hour Security
CASH PURCHASE ONLY
GENIE
Automatic Garage Doors

USA Made
With Remote Control

SUPERJACK
Swing/Sliding Gate Operator



Up To 300 Kgs. Gate & More
With Remote Control

Promo Period: February 1, 2006 - April 30, 2006 Per DTI-NCR Permit No A2-053 Series of 2006
Also Available in 3 to 6 months Installment Plan
PRONTO TRADING SHOWROOM
C. Raymundo Street, Pasig City
Tel. Nos.: 643-3393; 643-3588

TOP QUALITY
Water Refilling Station Systems
and Replacement Parts

WATERCARE MARKETING, PHILIPPINES
3933 L. Roces Cor. Santol St.,
Sampaloc, Manila, Philippines 1008
Tel. #: (632) 716-6998 (trunkline)
Wholesale: 716-8080 (bulk orders only)
Industrial Dept. (632) 716-0880
Fax. #: (632) 716-0903
E-mail: watercare@ph.inter.net

Also Available At:
- SM Megamall, 5/F Bldg. A Tel. #: 633-2510
- SM City Fairview, LGF Tel. #: 417-6622
- SM City Southmall, UGF Tel. #: 806-9393
- SM City Cebu, LGF Tel. #: (032) 233-0252
- MC Home Ortigas Tel. #: 638-5201
- MC Home Fort Bonifacio Tel. # 815-4270

WaterCare® MARKETING PHILIPPINES
13 YEARS WaterCare 1993-2006

Bringing the World's Best in
Water Treatment to the Filipino People
PENTEK

AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTOR & IMPORTER OF
Pentek Filter Cartridges & Housings, Structural Tanks, Fleck Control Valves, GE Osmonics, FSI Filterbags, Badgermeter, R-can Sterilight UV, Hydranautics Membranes, Rusco, & many others

© 2005 WaterCare Marketing Philippines. All Rights Reserved

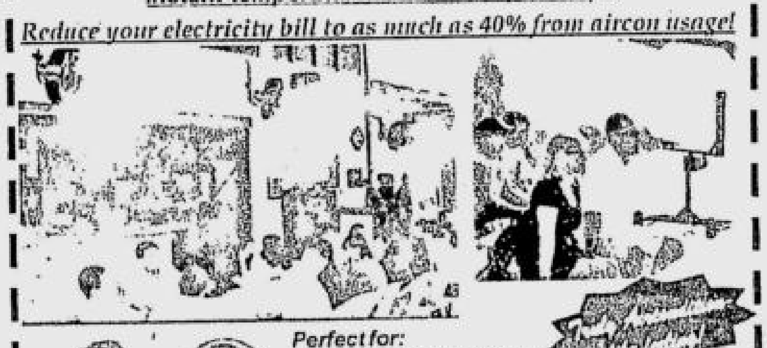
"Quality Water, Quality Life"

Most Practical Choice:
Multi-Use Cleaners
Commando 4003
- Car Washer/Multi-Purpose Cleaner
- 1500 PSI • 2.5 HP

Commando 707
- Car Washer/Multi-Purpose Cleaner
- 90 BAR • 2.5 HP

FREE DELIVERY within Metro Manila With AFTER SALES SERVICE
Major Credit Cards Accepted. Deferred Payments Up To 24 Mos.
Exclusively Distributed by:
CLEANCITY COMMERCIAL INCORPORATED
MANILA: 1851 M. OROSA ST., MALATE, MLA.
Tel. Nos.: 5244328 • 5240529 • 5245290
Q.C.: 646 QUEZON AVE. Tel. 7490581 • 7493709

MIST FAN COOLING SYSTEMS
Convert your existing Fan into an Evaporative Cooling System
Instant temperature reduction up to 40°F!
Reduce your electricity bill to as much as 40% from aircon usage!



Ceiling Wall Mount

Perfect for:
Gymnasiums • Factories • Greenhouse • Foundries • Outdoor Retails • Warehouse • Veranda • Sports Events • Restaurants • Livestocks • Manufacturing Plants • Church • Clubhouse • Garden Parties • Family Gatherings, etc.

For inquiries & free estimates call now!
COOL MIST INTERNATIONAL *Pioneer & Industry Leader since 1996*
Telefax: 639-1077 Tel. No: 639-1657
SALES / RENTALS / DESIGNS / INSTALLATION SERVICES AVAILABLE

ATENEO SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT
Rockwell Center, Makati City

BECOME A LEADER IN GOOD GOVERNANCE!

Enroll and get a Degree

MASTER IN PUBLIC MANAGEMENT (MPM)

Classes begin in July 2006

For working professionals in government and the private sector who wish to study on a part-time schedule.

For inquiries and application forms, contact Manolo Gregorio mgregorio@aps.ateneo.edu or Dr. Dennis Gonzalez at Tel. nos. 729-6869 and 899-7691 loc. 2405 or Telefax 890-5695

www.asg.ateneo.edu

INVEST IN YOURSELF
TO BE OF SERVICE TO OTHERS.
GET AN ATENEO EDUCATION!

COPYSTAR OFFICE AUTOMATION
Introducing CLEAR POWDER COPIER
RECONDITIONED
Canon IC-MF 3112
RICOH FT 4015 Reducer/ Enlarger w/ A3 size For only P20,000
RICOH FT 3320 For only P11,000
Brand new Multifunction Copier
ALSO AVAILABLE: RICOH FT 3013, 3513, 3213, 3713, FAX, LAMINATOR, RING BINDER
SALES: 8997104 • 8997101 to 03
8997045 • 8997075 to 76 • 8997023
MAIN OFFICE: COPYSTAR Bldg. 948 J. P. Rizal Ave., near cor. Makati Ave., Makati City • Fax: 895-7802
CEBU OFFICE: 178 Sansiangko St., Cebu City • Tel. Nos.: (032) 255-0504 • (032) 256-3368 to 69
PAMPANGA: Mc Arthur Highway, Dolores, City of San Fernando Tel. Nos.: (045) 963-5055 • (045) 860-0383

SAMSUNG ELECTRIC CHAIN HOIST
The Leader in Hoisting and Material Handling Technology in the World
- 1 to 5 Ton Capacity
- 6m Std. Lift
- Plain, Motorized Trolley
- 220/440 volts 3ph

Vallin FORKLIFT
- DIESEL AND ELECTRIC UNITS
- ISUZU C240 DIESEL ENGINE
- DURABLE, EASY TO MAINTAIN
- RELIABLE AFTER SALES SERVICE
- AVAILABLE SPARE PARTS
- BT INDOOR TRUCKS
- REACH TRUCKS
- POWER PALLET TRUCKS
- STACKERS
- HAND PALLET TRUCKS

SALES • LEASE • RENT • PARTS • SERVICE

CH CHIYODA
AUTOMATIC GAS SHAPE CUTTING MACHINE
STRAIGHT LINE CUTTING MACHINE
PIPE CUTTING MACHINE
SUPER COMPACT PORTABLE EYE TRACER

TUTHILL-SPA
KSK - GASCO PUMPS & METERS
- Flow meters 3 & 4 digit
- Electric fuel pump wall mounted
- Portable diesel electric fuel pump
- DC Rotary vane pumps battery operated 12 Volts / 24 Volts

Made in Italy

VICTOR HARDWARE
687-689 G. Araneta Ave., Quezon City, Philippines
Tel.: (632) 743-6701 • Fax: 743-4567 & 732-6100
E-mail: victorhardware@i-manila.com.ph

Sentinel FURNITURE COLLECTION
Intellect. cliq

Tablet Arm Chairs
MEGA
LARGE
REGULAR
Oval 52"
SS Squre 32"
Round 37"
SS Round 30"
EXCEL 2
SMARTEE
GENESIS
CERTIFIED 400 LBS. LOAD-TESTED
Pisces SC & AC
Aries SC
Leo SC & AC
Park Bench

Colors Available:
• Beige • Black • Blue • Green • White

Showroom 1: TC-328, 3L, Market Market Mall, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig Showroom 2: 3F, 88 C.B.T. Condominium, West Avenue, Quezon City
Tels.: (02) 729-5093 • 889-7166 Tels.: (02) 3739797 • 4165218 - 19
Fax: +63 2 373-4750 • E-mail: sales@sentinel.com.ph • Website: http://www.sentinel.com.ph
Also available in: WILCON, SM Homeworld, Ace Hardware, National Bookstore, Anson's Emporium, True Value, MC Depot, The Landmark, SM Supersale.

traveling in appreciation of GOD's beautiful & bountiful creations

EGYPT, HOLYLAND & TURKEY
MAY 19-31 • $ 1,950
HIGHLIGHTS: CAIRO - NILE RIVER CRUISE - EGYPTIAN MUSEUM - PYRAMIDS - SPHINX - ST. CATHERINE - MT. SINAI - DEAD SEA - QUMRAN - MT. OF TEMPTATION - JERUSALEM - MT. SCOPUS - MT. OF OLIVES - GETHSEMANE - LAST SUPPER ROOM - WAILING WALL - VIA DOLOROSA - BETHLEHEM - EIN KAREM - MT. TABOR - CANA - NAZARETH - SEA OF GALILLEE - TEL AVIV - ISTANBUL - BLUE MOSQUE - TOPKAPI PALACE - GRAND BAZAAR - BOSPHOROUS - BEYLERBEYI PALACE - BLACK SEA

GOLDCOAST & SYDNEY
8 DAYS • $ 1,450

CRUISE HOLIDAYS
6N *MEDITERRANEAN COLOURS $ 880
5N *SPRING VOYAGE $ 790
8N BEST OF EUROPE $ 595
7N ALASKA NORTHBOUND GLACIER $ 645
*Children Free

INDIA - GOLDEN TRIANGLE TOUR
7 Days • $ 926

US WEST COAST TOUR
8 Days • $ 1,693
11 Days • $ 1,922

PIRKKO & TROYTOURS, INC.
Tels.: 688-8846 • 688-8658 • 687-2694 Fax: 688-8846
Unit 310 City & Land Mega Plaza (2nd flr. Parking Level) ADB Ave. cor. Garnet St. Ortigas Center, Pasig City
E-mail: pirkkotroy@gmail.com

Who uses the Yellow Pages?

Consumers who are ready to buy.

78% of those who open the Yellow Pages are ready buyers.
Make sure they find you.

DPC
YELLOW PAGES

A witness account of the agony in Milosevic's war

From page A1

provoking the Nato bombing.

I learned about Milosevic's protest when I was already in Skopje, the capital of Macedonia, where all the UN staffers in Kosovo had been evacuated on the eve of the beginning of the Nato air strikes on March 24, 1999.

The air war doomed Milosevic whose rise to power as an icon of Serb nationalism began in Kosovo at the expense of the tortured ethnic Albanians.

The UNHCR played a major role during the war in the Balkans, leading convoys that delivered humanitarian aid to besieged villages, reporting to the United Nations on atrocities its staff witnessed in the process.

Collapse of Krajina

I first went to the former Yugoslavia in 1992, helping evacuate Croatian deserters, joining a team that mapped out convoy routes, working during emergencies as a stop-gap field officer.

SUPPORTERS of Slobodan Milosevic hold up his picture behind a police line, while attending a memorial service for the late Serbian president in Belgrade. AFP

I was there in August 1995 after the collapse of the Serb enclave in Krajina following the Croatian invasion that prompted 200,000 Serbs to flee—many of them packed in trains to populate Kosovo. That was when reports of Serb atrocities in the area first surfaced.

I went to Bosnia in 1995 following the fall of Srebrenica, a Muslim enclave supposedly under UN protection, where 8,000 Albanian men were massacred while trying to escape.

One of the most emotional moments I witnessed during the war was in Tuzla, where we pitched tents on an airfield for the women survivors of Srebrenica.

'Where were you?'

The then High Commissioner, Sadako Ogata of Japan, had gone to the airfield to talk to the refugees, victims of one of the world's worst ethnic conflicts that emerged at the close of the Cold War era.

The women came to Ogata, crying, arms outstretched, "Where were you when we needed you."

Albanian men who had escaped the Serb encirclement of Srebrenica had gone to the airfield. I talked to some of them, many showing swollen feet from traveling barefoot in the forest, and alerted reporters to their plight.

I arrived in Kosovo in August of 1998 at the height of the civil war in the province shortly after Milosevic agreed to allow humanitarian agencies free access to war-affected people.

War at summertime

It was still summertime and fruits and vegetables were plentiful. But signs of war were everywhere—rotting crops, the carcasses of machine-gunned livestock, clusters of ruined stone houses, thousands of Albanians sheltered in tents in the forested hills or on the road in carts and cars.

What I saw were scenes straight out of Dante's Inferno.

Here are some entries in my Kosovo diary:

- Aug. 29, 1998—Senik is still in flames. Tractor-trailers filled with food and personal possessions are ablaze. At least 17 people are killed. The villagers ask us to stay on to deter snipers as they bury their dead in the rain.

One of the victims is a 2-week-old baby who died of starvation because her wounded mother could not feed her.

Under shell fire

- Sept. 9, 1998—Thousands of people have fled to the Pec region. A colleague and I try to estimate numbers packed into cars, carts and tractor-trailers bumper-to-bumper but we give up after walking 3 km.

Shell fire is getting nearer and an old man begs, "Please, could you do something to stop the shelling?" As we leave, soldiers and tanks are gathering a few kilometers away. When we return the next day, all the people have gone.

- Sept. 25, 1998—A military offensive is at its height. Houses are on fire in villages in central Kosovo. We pass a convoy of government trucks with signs pasted on them "Social Humanitarian Aid of Kosovo."

The wind whips up the tarpaulin on one truck, revealing blue uniformed police crammed inside.

Like Manila at wartime

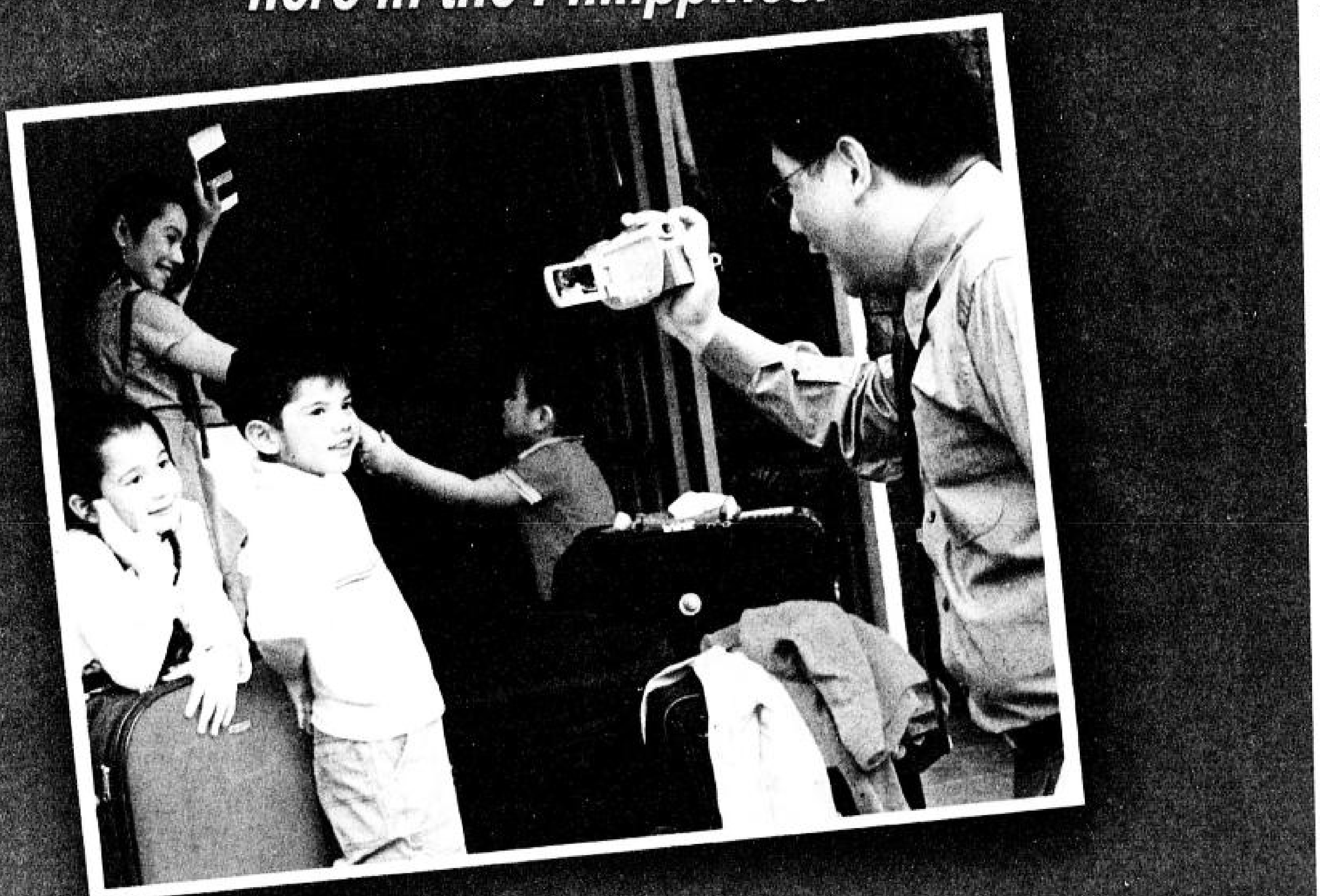
- Dec. 4, 1998—All but two houses in the village of Lodja have been destroyed by warplanes, artillery and mortar fire. The mayhem is reminiscent of sepia photographs of Manila during World War II.

A sign in Serbian is scrawled on a wall at the entrance to the village that roughly translates "Lodja does not exist anymore."

- Jan. 16, 1999—Forty-five people are massacred in the village of Racak in Stimlje during the Serb sweep. The strikes are triggered by assaults of the rebel Kosovo Liberation Army on policemen and the kidnapping of eight soldiers and five Serb civilians.

More than 30,000 ethnic Albanians are again on the move. There is no sign of a political breakthrough and there are again threats of Nato airstrikes.

After Racak, I knew time was ticking for Milosevic and each story of atrocities reported out of Kosovo was shortening the fuse of the bomb for him.


SONY like.no.other™

We're going back to the UK.
I'm sure the kids will miss their lolo and lola.
Good thing we bought our Handycam here in the Philippines.

For UK-based families like David's, spending quality time with people who matter most & getting a Sony Handycam are two of the best things they did in the Philippines.

Because they know that by buying here, they can:
• Choose among a wide selection of the latest NTSC models (compared to most European & Asian countries)
• Get great freebies like Handycam accessories and take advantage of competitive prices from Sony promos
• Opt to have their Handycam serviced or repaired in 45 countries such as the UK, Canada, Singapore, Hongkong, Taiwan, USA and UAE and still continue to benefit from the local warranty* even when their family comes back next year –all for a very reasonable price.

So, be a David. Invest on a Sony here…now.
*applicable to Option 3 only

SONY TLW Tourist Limited Warranty 3 YEAR WARRANTY

Simply Choose The Warranty Option That's Best For You!

Option 1 3 YEAR WARRANTY
3 Year LOCAL Warranty
(1 Year Standard – 2 Years Extension) from date of purchase (Supplied inside the box)

Option 2 TLW
1 Year TOURIST LIMITED WARRANTY (TLW)
from date of purchase (Exchange the Supplied 3 Year Local Warranty for TLW)

Option 3 3 YEAR TLW
Or, Get Both Local & Tourist Limited Warranty For Only P1,500!
3 Year LOCAL Warranty & 1 Year Tourist Limited Warranty (TLW)
both from date of purchase. PLUS, get FREE P1,000 worth of Cybershot and Handycam Accessories & Media Gift Certificate

Above warranty options can be redeemed within one (1) month from date of purchase of camera in any TLW Exchange Points (any Sony Service Center or Selected Exhibits)

SONY DIGITAL Surprises!
Contact us to get hold of a FREE copy of Sony's promo catalogue at 878-7600 or visit our website at www.sony.com.ph!
Promo period: Feb. 16, 2005 to Mar 31, 2006. See posters for details.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0647 Series of 2006.

Exclusively Distributed by: Sony Philippines Inc. · 20th Flr. Tower 1, 6766 The Enterprise Center, Ayala Avenue cor. Paseo de Roxas, Makati City 1226 PHILIPPINES
www.sony.com.ph
CCC Sony Customer Contact Center (02) 878-7600 info.sph@ap.sony.com

Serbian leader buried where he, wife first kissed

From page A1

rest in the place you loved the most."

"You lost your life while fighting for noble causes. You were killed by villains. But I know you will live forever for all who wish to live like human beings," her letter said.

A letter from the couple's son, Marko Milosevic, expressed hope that the late president's death would "sober up the humiliated Serb people."

"To die for one's country means to live forever," his letter said.

No priest officiated at the interment because Milosevic was an avowed atheist.

Among the supporters in Pozarevac were several indicted war crimes suspects on temporary leave from the UN tribunal in The Hague, Netherlands. One such supporter, retired Gen. Dragoljub Ojdanic, wore his military uniform.

After the burial, residents of the gritty industrial town 50 km south of the capital waited in a long line to view the grave, which was framed by a crimson carpet and brass stands holding red velvet ropes.

In Belgrade, die-hard supporters—many bused in by Milosevic's Socialist Party from Bosnia, Croatia and Kosovo, where he started wars that led to Yugoslavia's bloody 1990s breakup—packed a square in front of the federal parliament building in Belgrade.

Many wept uncontrollably and chanted "Slobo! Slobo!" at the sight of the flag-draped coffin on a bier atop a red-carpeted stage. Some clutched photographs of Milosevic or the UN court's two most-wanted fugitives: Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic and his wartime military chief, Gen. Ratko Mladic.

Authorities refused to approve an official ceremony, but Saturday's farewell—organized by the Socialists and technically private—had some of the trappings of a state funeral.

Smaller funeral

But the crowd in Belgrade, though larger than many had expected, was far smaller than the 500,000 who turned out for the 2003 funeral of assassinated Serbian Premier Zoran Djindjic, who had sent Milosevic to the tribunal two years earlier.

Milosevic died March 11 in his room in a detention center near the tribunal, which was trying him on 66 counts of war crimes, including genocide. He was the first head of state to be extradited by his country for trial by the UN court.

Ultranationalist leaders and at least five retired ex-Yugoslav Army generals wearing parade uniforms stood by the stage.

"We are bidding farewell to the best one among us, fully conscious of his greatness," Socialist deputy president Milorad Vucelic said.

Bosko Nikolic, 42, holding a huge poster of Milosevic, said: "I came to say goodbye to the greatest son of Serbia."

But some drivers passing by the square honked their horns and made obscene gestures at the Milosevic supporters, underscoring the disgust many Serbs feel toward the late autocratic president.

'Murder glorified'

"All of Belgrade's squares would be too small for all the victims of Milosevic and his rule," said Foreign Minister Vuk Draskovic, twice targeted for assassination by the regime. "A murderer and his crimes were glorified today."

Among the speakers at the ceremony was Ramsey Clark, a former US attorney general and longtime Milosevic supporter who is now on Saddam Hussein's defense team. "History will prove that Slobodan Milosevic was right," Clark said, drawing cheers.

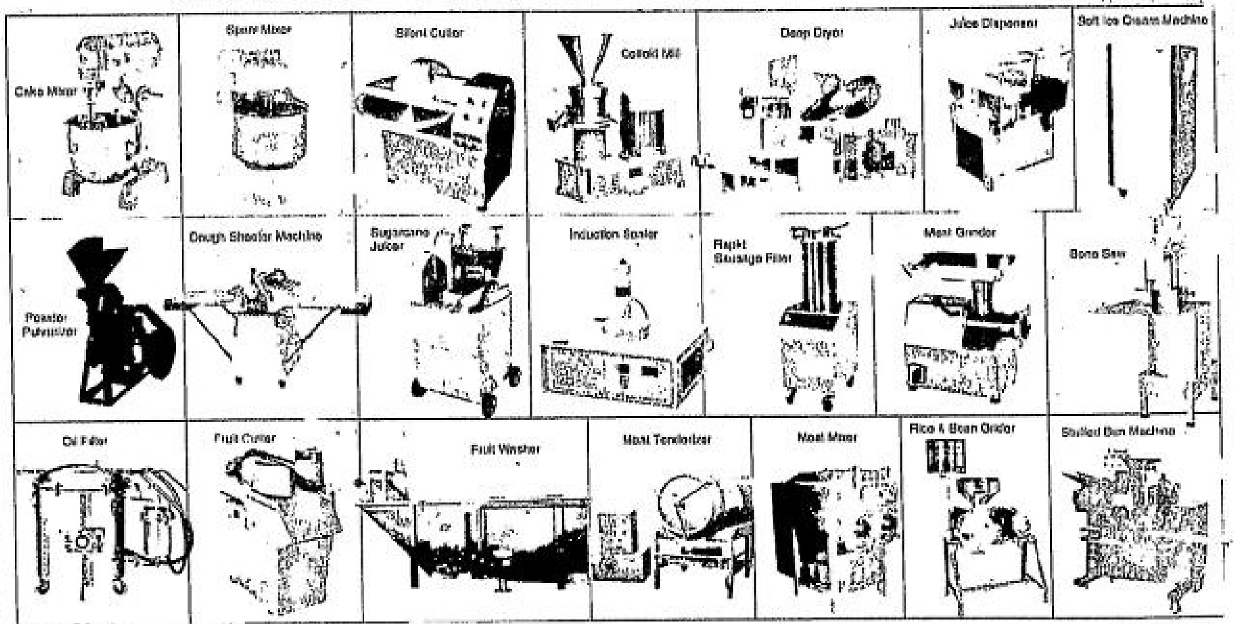
Later Saturday, about 2,000 anti-Milosevic activists gathered at another central Belgrade square for an impromptu rally.

The activists, mostly young people, waved red balloons, whistled, danced and shouted: "He is gone!" They also burned Milosevic's picture and scuffled briefly with a dozen Karadzic supporters who tried to disrupt the gathering.

Milosevic's Socialists and ultranationalists, ousted from power along with Milosevic in 2000, hoped to make political gains from their leader's death.

AP

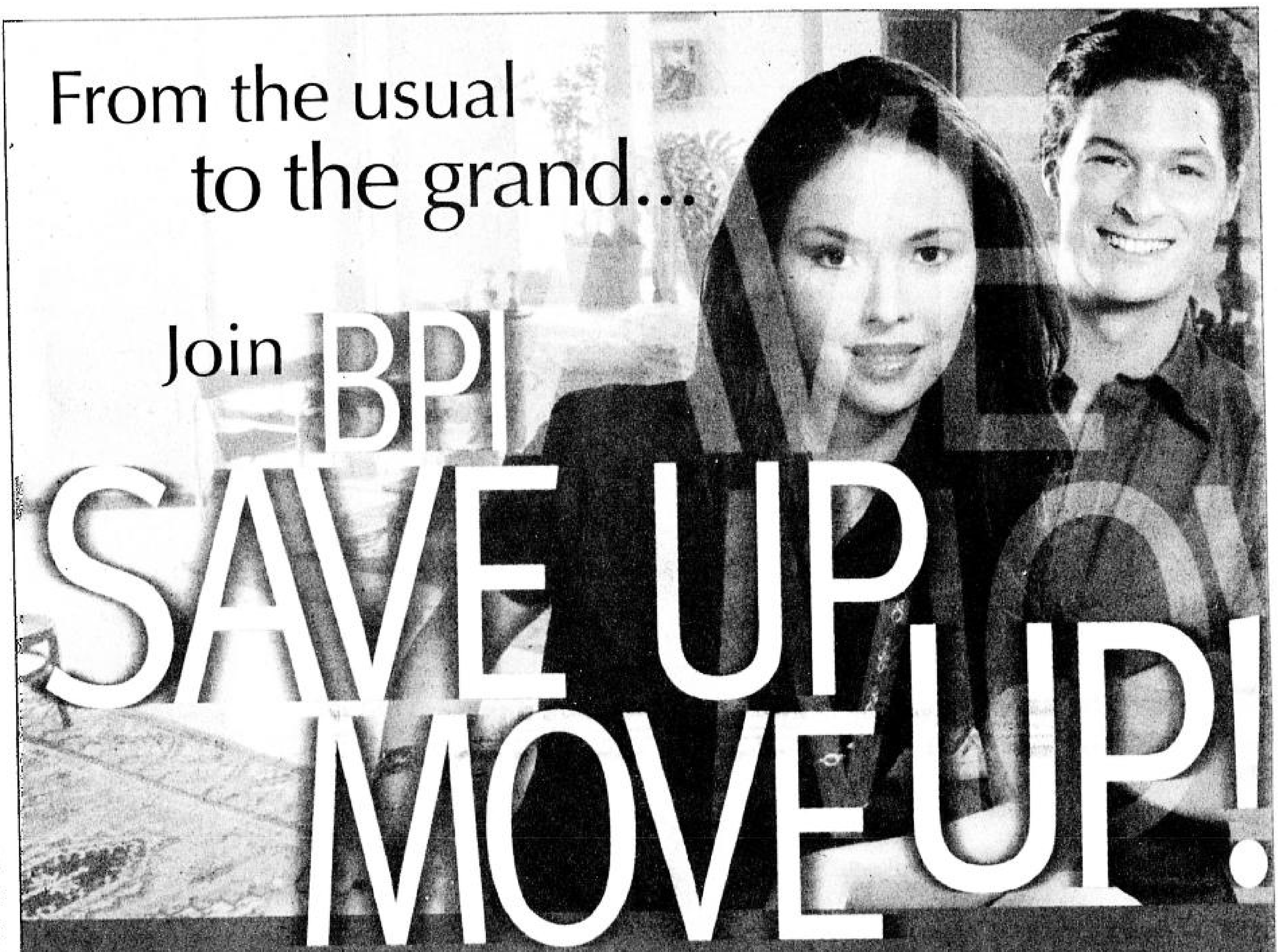
FOOD PROCESSING MACHINES ON STOCK
DIRECT FACTORY PRICE



Other Products:
- INVERTER
- THERMO CONTROLLER
- VS CONTROLLER
- MAGIC EYE
- COUNTER
- TREATING MACHINE

TAIWAN MACHINERY TRADE CENTER
27 Guava Road, Malabon, Metro Manila, Philippines
Tels.: 361-2597• 363-0167• 363-0118 • 363-0166 • 363-0188 • 363-0199
Fax. No.: (632) 361-7102 e-mail: tmtcusa@yahoo.com

DEALERS ARE WELCOME



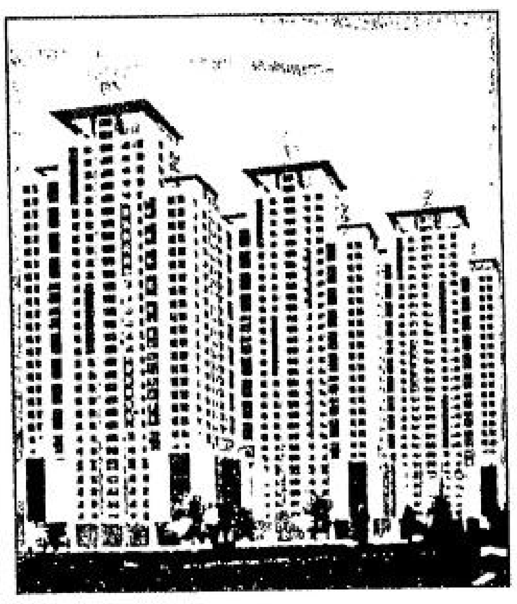
Want a chance to upgrade your lifestyle? Then start saving with BPI from March to September!

Simply open or maintain any BPI Peso or Foreign Currency Savings, Checking or Time Deposit. Every ₱5,000 in your savings or checking account or ₱25,000 in your time deposit entitles you to one (1) electronic raffle coupon. The more you save, the more chances to win!

Get a chance to win these fabulous prizes!

1ST DRAW:
FROM EXPECTED
TO EXCEPTIONAL!
Double your deposit balance by as much as ₱500,000.
You can spend it any way you want!

2ND DRAW:
FROM CONVENTIONAL
TO THE MOST SOPHISTICATED WHEELS!
Drive home a stylish Volvo V50*, Volvo's confident take on the station wagon. It offers unmatched safety and a spirited driving experience.
VOLVO
for life



3RD DRAW:
FROM SIMPLE LIVING
TO THE ULTIMATE IN URBAN LIVING!
Own a posh studio unit in The Columns Ayala Avenue, one of Makati's most vibrant condominium residences.
THE COLUMNS

Promo period March 1 to September 10, 2006. See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0420 Series of 2006

PLUS! Get a free BPI Electronic Gift Card worth ₱1,000 for every ₱300,000 additional or new deposit in savings or checking account.
Promo period March 1 to September 10, 2006. See readers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1117 Series of 2006

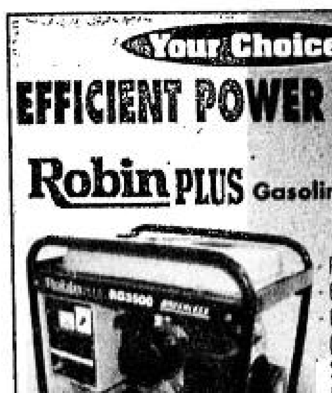
So save up with BPI and live it up!
Visit any BPI, BPI Family Savings Bank branch or Express Banking Center now.
Call 89-100 or log on to www.bpiexpressonline.com

BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
BPI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK
Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Maximum Deposit Insurance for Each Depositor ₱250,000.00

* color may vary from actual unit

NEXOR
HDPE Solid Pipes
Job Openings:
Sales Rep., Secretary, Engineer
VISIT ONLINE
For Inquiries Call:
Tel. : 712-9410
Website:
www.nexorpipes.com
JUNNI

Your Choice!
EFFICIENT POWER SOURCES
Robin PLUS Gasoline Generators



- Portable
- Easy to operate
- RG Series (large fuel tank) 2400 to 3500 watts
- RPG Series (standard fuel tank) 2400 to 6500 watts

SUMO Diesel Generators

- Powered by air-cooled diesel engine
- 3000 to 5000 watts
- 5000 watts available in soundproof model
- large fuel tank

Available At All Robin And Sumo Dealers Nationwide

SOLANDA ENTERPRISES, INC.
Anda cor. Magallanes Sts., Intramuros, Manila
Tel. Nos. 527-8261 • 527-8791 Fax: 527-1315

Visit Our Showroom! Sbox 4th Level Festival Supermall, Alabang Tel. No. 850 1874

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2006

ISSN 0116-2642

INQUIRER

Vol. 21 No. 102

OPINION

Email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph website: http://www.inq7.net

Text us your feedback: inquirer opi name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

The Philippine Daily Inquirer, Inc. has its business and editorial offices at
•Chino Roces Ave corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
•P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
•Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
•Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 •Advertising 897-4807
•Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.
•Circulation Customer Service Hotline 896-6000

•100% soy ink•

Publisher **Isagani Yambot**
Editor in Chief **Letty Jimenez-Magsanoc**
Managing Editor **Jose Ma. D. Nolasco**
Associate Editor **Abelardo S. Ulanday**
Associate Editor for Readership **Rosario A. Garcellano**
News Editor **Artemio T. Engracia Jr.** • *Chief, News Day Desk* **Nilo B. Paurom**
Opinion Editor **Jorge V. Aruta**
National Editor **Pergentino B. Bandayrel Jr.**
Senior Desk Editor **Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.**
Editorial Consultant **Amando Doronila**
Chief Photographer **Ernie U. Sarmiento**
Art & Design Director **Lynett A. Villariba**

Board Chairman **Marixi R. Prieto**
President **Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez**
Executive Vice President **David O. Valdes**
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing **Renato R. Reinoso**
VP for Advertising **Felipe R. Olarte**
AVP for Circulation **Gloria P. Lardizabal**

Readers' Advocate **Lorna Kalaw Tirol**
readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph • Tel. No. 897-8808, Loc. 342

All rights reserved. Except as permitted by law, no part of the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means stored in a database or retrieval system without its prior written permission.

Senga's blind side

EDITORIALS

THE ARMED FORCES CHIEF OF STAFF HAS ISSUED a memorandum to his service commanders, ordering them to remind the men and women in their commands to inoculate the military against the virus of politics. But in defining the soldier's role in the country's democratic project, Gen. Generoso Senga failed to consider the main source of political pressure in "these trying times": the incumbent administration.

The directive is welcome, no question about it. "As mandated, we must remain apolitical," Senga writes. The five guidelines he offers, beginning with a reiteration of the constitutional principle of "supremacy of civilian authority over the military," are on point; they also have the advantage of being clearly stated. They end with a ringing formula, what we can call the Senga doctrine: "We are not to be regarded as a potent political force to be used by politicians in the furtherance of their vested interests."

Amen to that. But the middle guidelines, as they are phrased, reveal Senga's blind side. He defines political intervention as "a license to wrest leadership of the government" (second guideline) or "an unrestrained license to engage in partisan politics or publicly speak our minds against the government" (third). The phrasing makes it seem that political intervention is a one-way street, in the general direction of the presidential palace.

But it is also political intervention if the armed forces are used by the administration to protect the President's votes (and only hers). It is also political intervention if soldiers or officers speak their minds against the opposition (this is different, it bears emphasizing, from defending or explaining current policy, which is a necessity). It is political intervention if the AFP is used (whether against its will or with its full participation) to blame, cripple or defame the leadership of the opposition.

The President's continuing crisis of legitimacy is rooted precisely in the possible abuse of resources of the government—including those of the armed forces—first, in alleged election fraud and then in an alleged vast conspiracy to cover up. Senga's directive thus misses a sixth guideline: "We in the AFP are constitutionally mandated to be neutral; in these trying times, we cannot be seen as being neutral for the administration."

Biazon's folly

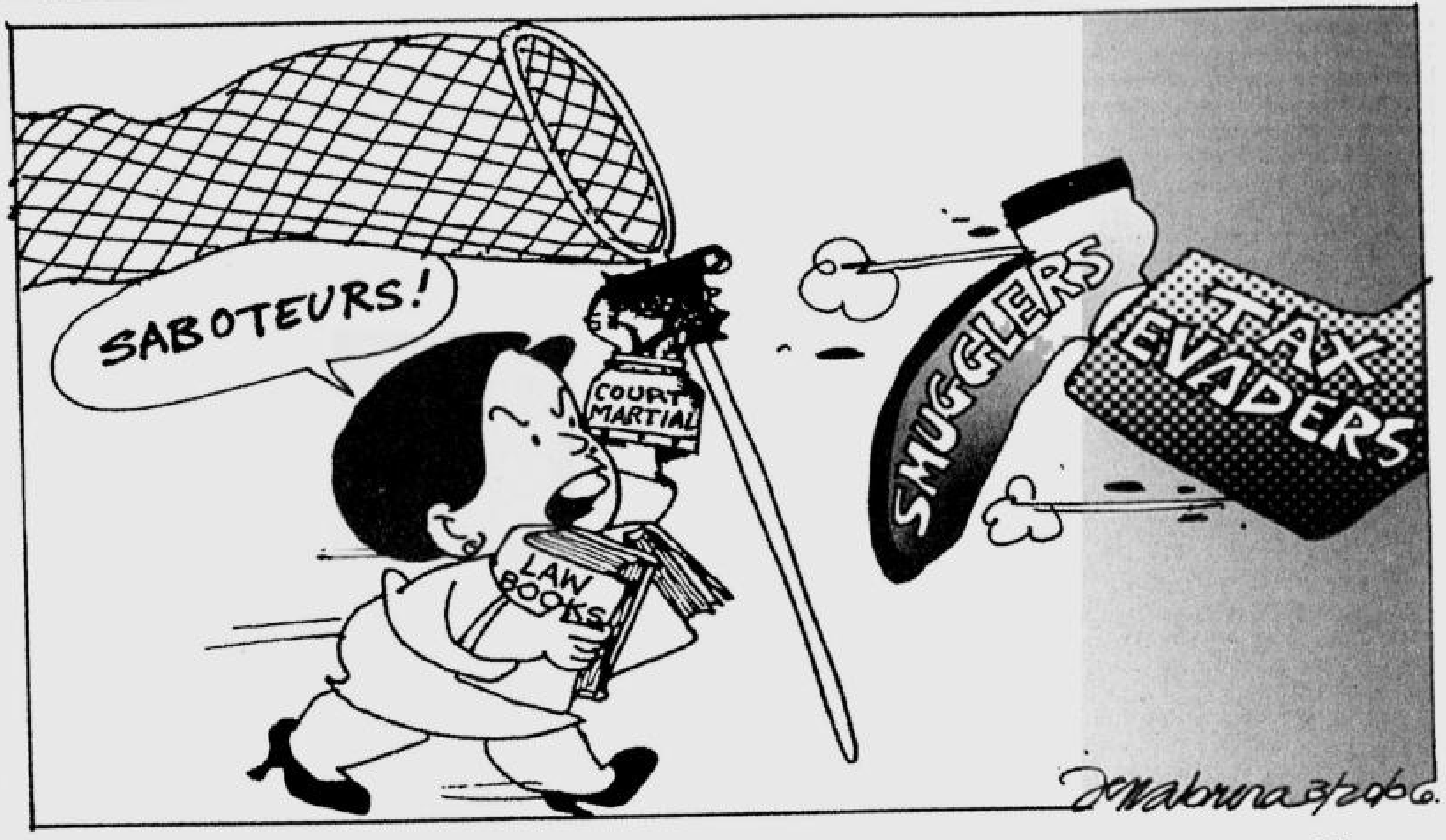
IN 1999, WHEN SEN. RODOLFO BIAZON WAS STILL on the side of the powers that be, some of his colleagues in the Senate joined a Supreme Court petition to declare the newly ratified Visiting Forces Agreement he had championed as unconstitutional.

If any of his colleagues (say Raul Roco or Teofisto Guingona Jr. or Sergio Osmeña III) had, at that time—with the intensity of conviction—called on the Armed Forces of the Philippines to "defend the Constitution" being violated (to name only a few of the respondents in the case) by President Joseph Estrada, Senate President Franklin Drilon, Senate foreign committee chair Blas Ople and Biazon himself, as Senate defense committee chair, the resulting tidal wave of laughter would have drowned them in public ridicule.

We cannot imagine any of the anti-VFA advocates then (many of whom believe until now that the agreement is unconstitutional, despite the Supreme Court's favorable decision) inviting the military to get involved in the issue simply because, as Biazon told INQUIRER editors last week, "anyone who violates the Constitution is your enemy." They would have been attacked, and rightly so, for imperiling the democratic project.

Seven years later, a desperate Biazon finds himself on the outs with the current administration; in his desperation, he has now issued a virtual invitation to the military to consider those whom he accuses of violating the Constitution as "your enemy." Why even wait for those tardy cowards in the Supreme Court to declare, say, Proclamation 1017 unconstitutional? That is only so much legal gobbledygook. From where he sits today, Biazon wants all soldiers to consider their commander in chief as the enemy, on his say-so.

We have repeatedly attacked President Macapagal-Arroyo's increasing use of Marcosian tactics, such as Proclamation No. 1017, Executive Order 464, and the so-called calibrated preemptive response policy. But we have always drawn the line at a military resolution to the political problem. We are sorry to see Biazon carelessly open the back door to military intervention.



GMA and friends also took a stroll at Baywalk

As I See It

Neal H. Cruz

I DIDN'T KNOW THAT YOU CAN NOW BE arrested for just walking on the sidewalk wearing a black T-shirt. You can't even watch the famous Manila Bay sunset and enjoy the fresh sea breeze at the Baywalk—which took Mayor Lito Atienza millions of pesos in taxpayers' money to build, just so Metro Manilans can enjoy a leisurely stroll by the sea—without running the risk of being arrested by the police and imprisoned for up to 12 years. We never faced such risk even during the darkest days of Marcos' martial law regime. But we do now, in this administration of President Macapagal-Arroyo. Last Friday, Former Social Welfare Secretary Dinky Soliman was arrested and detained for five hours as she went strolling at the seaside Baywalk.

Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez said Dinky violated not one but three laws: the Illegal Assembly Law, Batas Pambansa 880 and the Local Government Code. Just for walking beside the sea?

I know it is now dangerous to walk the streets of Metro Manila, especially if you are wearing black. The drivers, most of whom are probably former pilots, might not see you. (This probably explains why the local airlines are losing pilots—who, apparently, now prefer to drive jeepneys instead. After all, it's more exciting than flying a jet fighter.) But I didn't know that the danger includes being arrested for violating three laws.

"They had no permit," said Police Chief Supt. Arturo Paglinawan. You now need a permit to take a stroll on Manila's Baywalk?

"If they were just out for a stroll at the Baywalk," Paglinawan said by way of clarification, "why would they be wearing (similar) T-shirts?" So, it is now also illegal to wear similar T-shirts? Schools, companies, sports teams, candidates, product advertisers, military and police outfits all give out T-shirts with the same markings. Will their wearers now be arrested? Suppose Malacañang gives to residents of Payatas T-shirts imprinted with "I support GMA," and tells them to take a stroll at the Baywalk, and they do, will they be arrested?

Dinky and her fellow promenaders were wearing black T-shirts with the sign "*Patalsikin na. Now na*" (Out now). But there was no mention of whom to oust. They were not carrying any placards or posters; neither were they chanting anything nor making any speeches.

But Secretary Gonzalez said, "They were clearly staging a rally with their distinctive shirts and thumbs-down signs." Former President Fidel V. Ramos has the habit of making any group he's with flash the thumbs-up sign while saying "*Kaya natin ito.*" (He doesn't say *kung sino ang kaya niya.*) Will he now be arrested for doing this? I would like to see that. Or is the illegality limited to thumbs-down signs but not to thumbs-up signs?

And doesn't the police know that black is now a fashionable color for shirts? In fact, some elite military and police units have black uniforms. And there are innumerable T-shirts with the same markings.

Anybody who goes to New York comes back with a T-shirt that says "I Love NY." Or go to any mall or flea market and you can buy shirts with imprints of the Beatles or of one of the more popular entertainers. Are all these shirts now outlawed?

Police said Dinky and her friends had gathered at coffee shops and restaurants, then donned the black T-shirts and were on their way to take a stroll at the Baywalk. If she was alone or with only a few friends, they said, she would not have been arrested. But she had about 50 friends with her, they added.

So now it is prohibited to take a stroll with many friends at the Baywalk? I remember that President Arroyo herself, not so long ago, took a stroll at the same Baywalk with her family, *yayas* and *alalays*, *sipsips* and media people—not to mention the security personnel—for photoops. That was quite a crowd. If she did the same thing again, would she be arrested? What was the difference between GMA's stroll at the Baywalk and Dinky's?

The similarly marked T-shirts Dinky's group wore? But isn't it common practice to distribute T-shirts with the same marks at gatherings in Luneta (Alay-Lakad, for instance) and then have those wearing the shirts walk along Roxas Boulevard? The practice was all right for others but not for the members of Dinky's group? Why?

Aha, because Dinky's T-shirts say "*Patalsikin na.*"

Although there was no name on the T-shirts, it could be said that "*Patalsikin na*" might have been referring to GMA. But the phrase could as well be referring to corrupt officials, smugglers, rebel soldiers, drug traffickers in government—all of whom the President has declared war on. Isn't that an expression of support for her?

If only this administration were as tough with corrupt people, smugglers, drug traffickers and traffic violators as it is with Dinky's promenaders, we would be free of these scourges already.

But why is the Arroyo administration paying special attention to Dinky? Somebody said it could be because she is of the same height as GMA. (Does that mean that Sen. Juan Flavier should watch out?) Another said, it could be because somebody powerful cannot stand Dinky's hair accessories. That's a more likely explanation.

Just one more question: If the Baywalk promenaders, wearing the same black T-shirts with the same markings were led by Mike Defensor or Ignacio Bunye, or were composed of members of the LP-Atienza Wing, would the police have arrested them?

* * *

TODAY'S JOKE:

GMA: That Pulse Asia survey saying that 65 percent of Filipinos want me to resign can't be true. Look at all those people waving at me.

DEFENSOR: But Ma'am, don't you see they are all waving with their middle fingers?

Dreams

There's the Rub

Conrado de Quiros

LATER, SOME OF THE MUSICIANS WOULD ask how we swung off the one big party they had that night. Later, too, some of the veterans of rallies and mass actions would wonder how many organizations and how long it took to put it all together. That was the concert "Never Again! Concert for Freedom," which was held last Thursday at the UP Sunken Garden and turned out to be one huge blast.

The second question is the easier to answer. It took a couple of weeks and no organization (in the sense of a mass organization) to put it up. We just had a lot of volunteers. In my columns last week, I repeatedly used the pronoun "I" to refer to the making of the concert. It is a way only of making it a personal account, I by no means want to claim a franchise on it. That was the work of many people, many of them preferring not to be mentioned at all—not out of fear but in the profound belief that a good deed is its own reward.

I will, however, take this opportunity to express my profoundest gratitude to all the musicians who came to that, well, giant gig. Most of them could easily have commanded a fortune elsewhere, but they did it for free here. All we could offer was transportation money so they would not be set back unduly financially—it's not easy ferrying some of their equipment. My profoundest gratitude also goes to all the volunteers, particularly to the four persons who racked up a huge cell phone bill calling up the musicians and staking their own credibility in the invitations: Cooky Chua of Color It Red, Yna Dalisay of Conspiracy Café, Renard Bartolome of 70s Bistro, and Debbie Gaite who manages bands. My profoundest gratitude finally to all who gave to the concert, and I do not just mean money. We got tons of text messages from people who said they had nothing to offer but their prayers. That is not nothing, that is everything. Those prayers were clearly answered.

I was bowled over by the turnout. I half-expected some of the bands to pull out at the last minute. They did not. I half-expected some of our target audience to stay away at the last minute. They did not. Some people, especially the TV reporters, asked me why there were politicians there. I answered: Because I invited them. I did say in my column everyone was welcome whatever their creed, color, or (preferred) gender. Everybody at least that professed to hate dictatorship and love freedom. The invitation extended even to Mike Defensor, though I could not have guaranteed his safety. Someone there told me he remembered Defensor when he was still a student activist exhorting fellow students to rise up against the Marcos dictatorship.

But the throng that gathered there warmed the heart and misted the eyes. Which brings me to the second question: How did we pull it off?

I have no idea. It was just pure magic.

Someone would tell me later it happened because everybody wanted it to happen. Another one would tell me later it happened because it was an idea waiting to happen. Still somebody would tell me later, "*Pare*, I think you touched a chord with that line, 'I believe in the power of music, I do not believe in the music of power.'" Good to know that even if I'm not a musician, I touch chords.

It began a couple of weeks before the event. I broached the idea to my friend Pancho Lara, who also helped put up our concert for press freedom in 1999 at the Bahay ng Alumni. His friend Oya Arriola suggested June Rodriguez, a veteran organizer who never stopped serving the people. We got in touch with Joel Saracho, the "emcee *ng bayan*," and held a meeting a couple of days later. From there it took a life of its own.

Everything just conspired to make it possible. If ever there was a conspiracy, divine and human, it was that. I cannot, however, give Raul Gonzalez the exact address of God if he should choose to issue an arrest warrant for Him, I am not in the possession of any such information.

It was enough to make you believe in Providence. People gave freely, and every time we thought we'd fall short of what we needed, something would suddenly turn up. Someone from out of the blue asked us during the concert how much more we needed and plunked down the cash before our flabbergasted eyes. She did not want to be mentioned, she was just an ordinary citizen, she said.

The stage was magnificent, I have to thank the events organizers we hired for it; they did an exceedingly professional job. The sound system was even more magnificent, donated by people who too would like their generosity to be noted only by heaven. Miraculously, I did not get visited by my perpetual scourge, gout, though I had been drinking nearly every night for the last two weeks while meeting with the musicians and volunteers. (That's a very good excuse!) Many more bands wanted to play, except that some of them had out-of-town gigs that day and we cut off the number of participants at a little past 30. As it was, we had an absolute surfeit of talent. I had worried about the weather some days before because it was always raining in late afternoon; but, lo and behold, God even donated a full moon that night.

I've not seen an event like this where I felt no bad vibes altogether. There was no note, or whisper, or shadow, of discord that night. Everybody was happy. The musicians were happy, the organizers were happy, the contributors were happy, the crowd was happy, the UP police and bouncers were happy, even God was happy—or so He had it writ in people's faces. Only the person who claims God put her in Malacañang for a purpose was unhappy.

It was enough to make you believe in Providence or in that line from the movie "Field of Dreams": If you build it, they will come. You have a dream, build it.

They will come—in more ways than one.

The Supreme Court as legitimizing agent

SOUNDING BOARD

Fr. Joaquin G. Bernas, S.J.

WE ARE WONT TO SPEAK OF THE SUPREME Court as the last bulwark of our liberties and the ultimate defender of constitutionalism. That is the general truth. This is true because of the Court's power of judicial review which leads to the truism that the Constitution, including the Bill of Rights, means what the Supreme Court says it means. Thus it is that, in the history of our nation, there have been instances when the Supreme Court has legitimized official action offensive to human rights and disruptive of constitutionalism. Hence, as we await the decision of the current Supreme Court on the constitutionality of the gag rule in Executive Order 464, and of Proclamation 1017 and the various official actions it occasioned, as well as the uses of BP 880, it might be salutary to review how our Supreme Court has sometimes, to our national regret, played around with sacred constitutional principles.

We might start with the decision that initially legitimized the 1973 Constitution. In the "Ratification Cases" a majority of the Supreme Court were of the view that the Constitution proposed by the 1971 Constitutional Convention was not ratified in accordance with the requirements of the 1935 Constitution. In the end, however the Court accepted the cryptic conclusion that the new Constitution was already in effect.

At that time, martial law was already in effect by virtue of Proclamation No. 1081. When the validity of the imposition of martial was challenged, there was near unanimity about the Court's inability to declare it invalid under the circumstances of the time. But the Court also held that the imposition of martial law automatically suspended the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus. Only Justice Cecilia Muñoz-Palma dissented. The 1987 Constitution would later reverse that decision saying that the imposition of martial law does not automatically suspend the privilege of the writ.

The next major decision upheld the wide-ranging legislative power of the President under martial law. The Court affirmed the "proposition that as Commander-in-Chief and enforcer or administrator of martial law, the incumbent President of the Philippines can promulgate proclamations, orders, and decrees during the period of Martial Law essential to the security and preservation of the Republic, to the defense of the political and social liberties of the people and to the institution of reforms to prevent the resurgence of rebellion or insurrection or secession or the threat thereof as well as to meet the impact of a worldwide recession, inflation or economic crisis which presently threatens all nations including highly developed countries." This was later affirmed by Amendment No. 6 of 1976, which established the President as legislative authority parallel to that of the legislature. But again the 1987 Constitution would categorically say that the imposition of martial law does not supplant the functioning of legislative assemblies.

Benigno Aquino Jr. also challenged the creation of military tribunals vested with jurisdiction "exclusive of civil courts" over crimes related to martial law. But the Court answered that martial law creates an exception to the general rule of exclusive subjection to civil jurisdiction when such exception is necessary for the attainment of the objects of martial law. Again the 1987 Constitution had to reject this decision saying that martial law does not "authorize the conferment of jurisdiction on military courts and agencies over civilians where civil courts are able to function." (Meanwhile, there are now media reports that the President is contemplating trial by military tribunal for suspected civilian smugglers.)

By September 1976, fully four years after the imposition of martial law and almost four years after the 1972 Constitution had taken effect, President Marcos had not yet convened the *interim* National Assembly mandated by the Constitution and he alone was the active legislative authority. It was in that same month and in that constitutional morass that Marcos, through presidential decrees, proposed a coordinated series of amendments the principal thrusts of which were (1) to consign the *interim* National Assembly to oblivion, (2) to create an *interim* Batasang Pambansa, and (3) to grant full and concurrent legislative power to the President. Thus the question was whether the President could propose amendments to the Constitution. The Supreme Court held he could. The main opinion also added that the "separation of executive and legislature ordained in the Constitution presents a distinct obstruction to efficient crisis government." Another Justice rubbed salt to the wounds of Philippine constitutionalism by arguing that the President had not proposed the amendments but had merely collated the amendments already proposed by the people in earlier referenda. Only Justices Claudio Teehankee and Muñoz-Palma dissented.

We are again at a crucial moment in our history when the Supreme Court is challenged to make decisions that can either weaken or strengthen constitutionalism in the Philippines. Meanwhile, the executive arm has been behaving as if martial law had been declared. Every official act so far done, unless contradicted by the Court, will continue to enjoy the presumption of legitimacy.

The Constitution says that the Supreme Court must decide cases submitted to it for decision within 24 months. We are, of course, hoping that the Court will not wait that long and that its decision will strengthen democratic processes.

Building a culture of quality education

COMMENTARY

Butch Hernandez

"QUALITY EDUCATION IS ONLY FOR THE RICH STUDENTS. No one cares for the plight of poor students, especially in the Philippines. The government does not even care that the good and well-experienced teachers are leaving the country."

This message practically leapt out of my computer monitor the day after the commentary, titled "Quality education" (PDI, 3/13/06), of our board chair, Ms Eggie Apostol, appeared in the INQUIRER. It was e-mailed by an overseas Filipino worker in the Middle East. He made no effort to hide his deep disappointment with what he believed was the limp response by the national government and education stakeholders to the problems facing today's public schools. (One of my chores as executive director of the Foundation for Worldwide People Power (FWWPP) is to review every piece of communication on Education Revolution that comes to our e-mail.)

The World Bank report on Philippine education, titled "Improving the Quality of Basic Education," succinctly states that "inputs into the education system have been either of poor quality, insufficient in amount, or not in the right mix." The document also points out that "many processes (e.g., teacher recruitment, deployment, in-service training, and promotion) are unwieldy and ineffective, and support mechanisms are not in place to help teachers do their job or students from impoverished or disadvantaged backgrounds attend good schools. Now is a good time to respond to the education crisis. Many other developing countries have been investing heavily in their educational development, leaving the Philippines to face tougher competition in the global economy."

The FWWPP's Education Revolution advocates sustained community involvement to help stem the crisis in our education system, especially in the aspect of quality education. This academic year, the FWWPP is introducing the concept of a performance-based support system to sustain organized initiatives that will improve education delivery at levels as deep as the barangay.

The object is to arrive at a "performance agreement" of sorts between the public school and the community it serves. The terms of the "agreement" are enumerated in a Strategic Plan jointly prepared by the school and the community. The achievement rates of its students as measured in standard diagnostic tests are the "currency of exchange" that the public school uses to unlock resources in the community.

Since we launched Education Revolution, specifically at the community level, we have been deluged with letters and calls from individuals and entities sharing in our belief that quality education is the best weapon against poverty. The statements of solidarity are very much appreciated and deeply encouraging. The problem is how to turn all this positive energy into a continuing community initiative. If you really want to help improve the quality of education in the public school in your own community, how and where do you start?

At the beginning, of course. By learning as much as you can about the state your chosen public school is in right now. You don't need to be an investigative reporter to do this. The basic information about the public school you are thinking of helping is quite accessible—as public documents—from a variety of sources. The Department of Education website at www.deped.gov.ph is a good place to start. More detailed information can be obtained from the Basic Education Information System (BEIS), a facility developed by Undersecretary Juan Miguel Luz. Please note though that the data go only up to academic year 2004. But they are still statistically valid.

From our own experience, we can confidently say that there is no scarcity of data. In fact, the reverse is true: there is so much information about the education sector that many community initiatives get sidetracked at this stage due to information overload. You'll come across such arcane terms like "cohort survival rate" and "inflation-adjusted budget allocation" and sinister-sounding acronyms like MOOE and SEF. Most likely, you will be shocked by what you will discover: unbelievably substandard facilities, overcrowded classrooms to the point of bursting, poorly motivated teachers, and the list goes on.

After your initial information gathering, the next thing to do is to get more people in the community talk about quality education: what it means and why it is important to the community, and not just to the teachers and the principal of the public school. In community development parlance, this is called "emphasizing stakeholdership."

The focus of these preliminary community talks goes beyond just raising funds to build better school facilities. Yes, these things are also important, but finding creative ways to help our children "learn for life" should be our primary goal. For example, being able to really read—and not just mouth the words—is a basic "life skill." The DepEd says, by Grade III, the pupil should already be an independent reader.

In the course of your inquiry into the state of public education in your community, you are bound to uncover a myriad of reasons why Jaime or Anita—already in Grade VI—seems to find difficulty reading newspapers like the INQUIRER. The idea is to first make other people in the community aware of the problem. Putting together an organized education initiative that is premised on performance can come a bit later, when conditions are ripe. Remember that our goal is to build a culture of quality education.

The World Bank report mentioned earlier also says, "This is the important thread that needs to be woven [into all other efforts to improve basic education]. Many Filipinos are confused about what is meant by quality education. Many equate it with education credentials despite evidence that credentials do not necessarily correspond to learning competencies. Many also think that resources in schools (e.g., more computers, nicer buildings, more teachers) [are] a guarantee of good education despite evidence that well-endowed schools do not always deliver good instruction, while many poorer schools do.

Building a culture of quality [therefore] is to emphasize competency rather than credentials or inputs. It means defining performance targets and assessing performance against those targets, and regularly examining why those targets are not reached and what needs to be done."

The FWWPP will be glad to walk you through the crucial information-gathering stage, and answer any questions you might have. The DepEd's BEIS is available on CD. Just send us an e-mail should you want a copy, that is, if you haven't acquired one yet from the DepEd.

Most of all, we'd like to hear of any ideas you might have, to make the Education Revolution a national movement for quality education.

(You may send e-mail to the author at execdir@fwwpp.org.)

The INQUIRER is a member of the
PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE
The National Association of Philippine Newspapers

Life

KRIS-CROSSING MINDANAO

Carlos Isagani T. Zarate

"I'M RUNNING THROUGH A GAMUT OF EMOTIONS." This was how Ateneo de Davao University Prof. Luz Ilagan described her feelings at a press conference last week, as she denounced the "malicious and ridiculous" inclusion of her name in a rebellion complaint filed by police authorities at the Department of Justice.

No stranger to draconian rule—a family member was imprisoned during the Marcos regime—Ilagan has all the reasons to be apprehensive, angry—and yes—even defiant. "It's déjà vu. We are going through repression all over again. But we have to fight for our rights."

Luz is the widow of the late Davao legal luminary Laurente Ilagan, who was jailed in 1985, together with two other Davao lawyers—Marcos Risonar and Antonio Arellano—by force of the dreaded Preventive Detention Action (PDA) which allowed warrantless arrests.

The case of the three Davao lawyers is now enshrined in Philippine jurisprudence as the "Ilagan Doctrine" (Ilagan vs. Enrile, 139 SCRA 349).

The soft-spoken current national chair of the Gabriela Women's Party-List (her partymate, Rep. Liza Maza, is among the "housemates" currently under protective custody of the House of Representatives), Ilagan was a former Davao City councilor. She was among the first appointees of the Aquino administration following the 1986 People Power Revolution.

While she was in Davao City for the International Women's Day last March 8, the police Directorate for Investigation and Detective Management in Manila included her in a charge sheet for rebellion. Also in the charge sheet were Davao-based militant leaders Bayan Muna Rep. Joel Virador, Ariel Casilao of Bayan, Editha Duterte of the urban poor group Kadamay, Omar Bantayan of Kilusang Mayo Uno, Jeppie Ramada of Bayan Muna, Antonio Flores of Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas, Cora Espinosa of Samakana and Lorie Ann Cascaro of Anakbayan youth sector.

The charge sheet is based on the joint affidavit of PNP intelligence operatives Franco S. Duca and Rex Rodriguez and on photos showing the march-rally led by Ilagan and her group during the Feb. 24 commemoration of Edsa I.

"It is not only baseless but, more importantly, it is ridiculous," said lawyer Angela Librado-Trinidad, chair of the city council's committee on women and children.

Here are the "ridiculous" allegations, that the police authorities claim constitute rebellion: "(M)ass action rally particularly at the freedom park ... said personalities were involved in the aggressive actions to destabilized *(sic)* the Philippine government .... (they) started to march from freedom park passing along the main streets and ... at centennial park ... they shouted their politically inclined beliefs to establish a transitional council to replaced *(sic)* the Arroyo Regime and to OUST PGMA and all other related issues to opposed *(sic)* the government interest… strongly call for the immediate resignation of PGMA."

"The charge sheet is not only baseless but it is also unbelievable. It cannot even approach the definition of rebellion as defined in the Revised Penal Code," commented Caesar Europa, president of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines-Davao City Chapter. "At least the Marcos dictatorship (was) predictable" and had no pretenses about employing dictatorial measures, he added.

"This administration is more dangerous because it is *doble-cara*, pretending to be democratic but employing draconian measures to silence its critics," Ilagan said.

Of the "Davao 8," only Antonio Flores of KMP had faced similar charges in the past. Flores, a militant peasant leader, was charged in 2001 and imprisoned for more than a year for the crime of rebellion and illegal possession of firearms. He was later acquitted on both charges.

"If fighting for the rights of the peasants and calling for the ouster of a fake president are an act of rebellion, then so be it. I will not be cowed by this latest trumped-up charge against us," Flores said.

Given the state of paranoia currently bedeviling the Arroyo administration, it would not be surprising if in the coming days more ridiculous charges are leveled against those perceived as "destabilizers and enemies of the state."

The administration could become more brazen in filing these charges as it continues to conduct a massive witch-hunt of its perceived enemies—in the political opposition, and even in the press. In Cagayan de Oro, for example, our chair in the Union of Peoples' Lawyers In Mindanao (UPLM), Fred Gapuz, reportedly has been included in the military's "order of battle" for his being a critic of the Arroyo administration. Last Friday's arrest of former Social Welfare Secretary Dinky Soliman is another indication of this trend. So under the beleaguered Arroyo administration, walking along a major Metro Manila thoroughfare, while wearing a black T-shirt with a provocative slogan, is already a crime!

Indeed, even with its so-called lifting, Proclamation 1017 remains the real "residual threat" to our constitutionally guaranteed rights.

The continued crackdown on the political opposition and the critical press is a clear indicator that the Arroyo administration will employ all measures, legal or otherwise, to ensure its survival.

"These trumped-up charges against me and my colleagues are part of life," Ilagan said as she vowed that oppression and injustice "will not deter us, life goes on."

Incidentally, when her husband was arrested in 1985, "life" was taken to mean "Larry Ilagan Forever." This time around, "life" may as well mean "Luz Ilagan Forever" and "Laban is Forever."

* * *

Comments at kar_laws@yahoo.com or karlos_z23@hotmail.com

Fashion police

THE LONG VIEW

Manuel L. Quezon III

MR. POLICEMAN STOPPED SOME PEOPLE ON the sidewalk, as they exited a restaurant and prepared to cross the street to the Baywalk. Mr. Policeman had been watching the people for some time. He had with him many other policemen—at least one policeman, if not two, for every person in black in the group who had caught his fancy. Mr. Policeman said that crossing the street was out of the question. But why?

"We received an intelligence report," Mr. Policeman said.

Naturally someone asked, "What did it say?"

Mr. Policeman ignored the question. Instead, he said to the people in black, "We know what you intend to do."

Naturally, they asked, "And what is that?"

Mr. Policeman sidestepped the question and said, "We know you are up to no good. Look at your shirts."

Some of the shirts said, *"Patalsikin na. Now na."* Too cutesy for comfort for many in the *somos* crowd, but this wasn't a gathering of the *somos*. One of those wearing a T-shirt that offended Mr. Policeman asked, "And it is illegal to wear what we want?"

Mr. Policeman ignored the question. He growled, "We want to preserve the peace and the tranquility of the people." Mr. Policeman had to say it rather loudly, because Hizzoner the Mayor was sponsoring a concert, and in preparation for it, music was blaring in what could only be described as an untranquil manner. But that was music, city-sponsored, too; and didn't require the mind-destabilizing effort of reading an 8" x 8" logo on a black T-shirt after sunset.

The people in black were rather taken aback by Mr. Policeman's insistence that his mind-reading activities had revealed not only what was on their minds—never mind what was inside their chests—but also what was going to happen in the future. Of course, everyone knew what the future had in store—which was 30 people or less crossing Roxas Boulevard on a pedestrian lane for a stroll along Baywalk and for a few-minutes' thumbs-down gesture; then possibly helping the local economy by eating barbecue or fishballs—not to mention catching "V for Vendetta" later that evening.

Apparently, some of the police, safely behind Mr. Policeman's back, agreed with those in black. Quite a few nodded with every question asked by those in black.

But Mr. Policeman was not to let the future be. When the people in black decided they might as well cross the street individually, Mr. Policeman had them surrounded, then arrested two of them. Mr. Policeman bundled the two to his precinct, and eventually decided—after more phoning around—to hand over the two to more policemen at their castle-like headquarters, where the policemen spent a couple of hours figuring out how to make the law apply to those in black.

The law is harsh, but it is the law; we must have the rule of law! It goes like this:

"You're bad."

"Why?"

"Because!"

This is known as political will, even if it entails a lot of humdrum leafing through law books and calling-up superiors. In the meantime, we waited.

As we waited, one person in black asked a rather high-ranking policeman (who seemed particularly keen on the goings-on), "Sir, what is your name?" The Very Important Policeman (VIP) gave the person a dirty look, as if the latter had said something dirty (like "human rights"). The VIP gave his name and asked, "Why do you want to know?" The person in black said, "Well, I just wanted to know, to see whether you're on our side." ("Our," meaning, of course, the citizenry, which has the right to ask policemen their names.) The VIP scowled. "I don't work for you. I work for the government." God Save the Queen.

The VIP left, reappeared in civilian clothes, directed two flunkies to carry a large basket to his vehicle, stood around sneering at no one in particular for some time, then left to be reunited with his basket and possibly to do some off-duty sneering.

Finally, the law was discovered to somehow apply to what the police carefully typed in their complaint as a "lighting rally." It must have been an honest Freudian slip concerning Hizzoner the Mayor's multi-watt extravaganza along the Baywalk. The police would next bring the arrested two to face a prosecutor in the Manila City Hall.

In the City Hall, sitting outside the prosecutor's office, I noticed that many of the other prosecutor's offices had shiny posters featuring Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez. Except someone had "ball-penned," on quite a few of the posters, a little Charlie Chaplin moustache on Gonzalez. How funny, I thought.

Eventually the prosecutor decided that, well, perhaps things deserved a more thorough investigation. The lawyers agreed. So many questions! This might just be a case for the ages. Go home and wait for your subpoenas, the tired prosecutor told those who'd been arrested.

As we went home, a small group of people who had gathered outside City Hall raised their fists and sang "Bayan Ko." Some had lit candles and placed them on the sidewalk. They chanted complimentary things about those who'd been arrested, and some uncomplimentary things about the President in whose name they'd been arrested. Now that was a protest. A rally, even. But no one was arrested. And I remembered a slogan Fred Lim coined when he was still mayor of Manila. It went like this: "The law applies to all, otherwise none at all."

Not the best English, but in retrospect, not a bad thought. One that explains perfectly well why people wear black (slogan or no slogan on the T-shirt), protest, demonstrate and otherwise speak their mind: We cannot continue to have a Republic whose strength is measured by the forcefulness with which the law is applied only against those who insist on the old-fashioned notion that a President never is, and never should be, confused with the totality of the State.

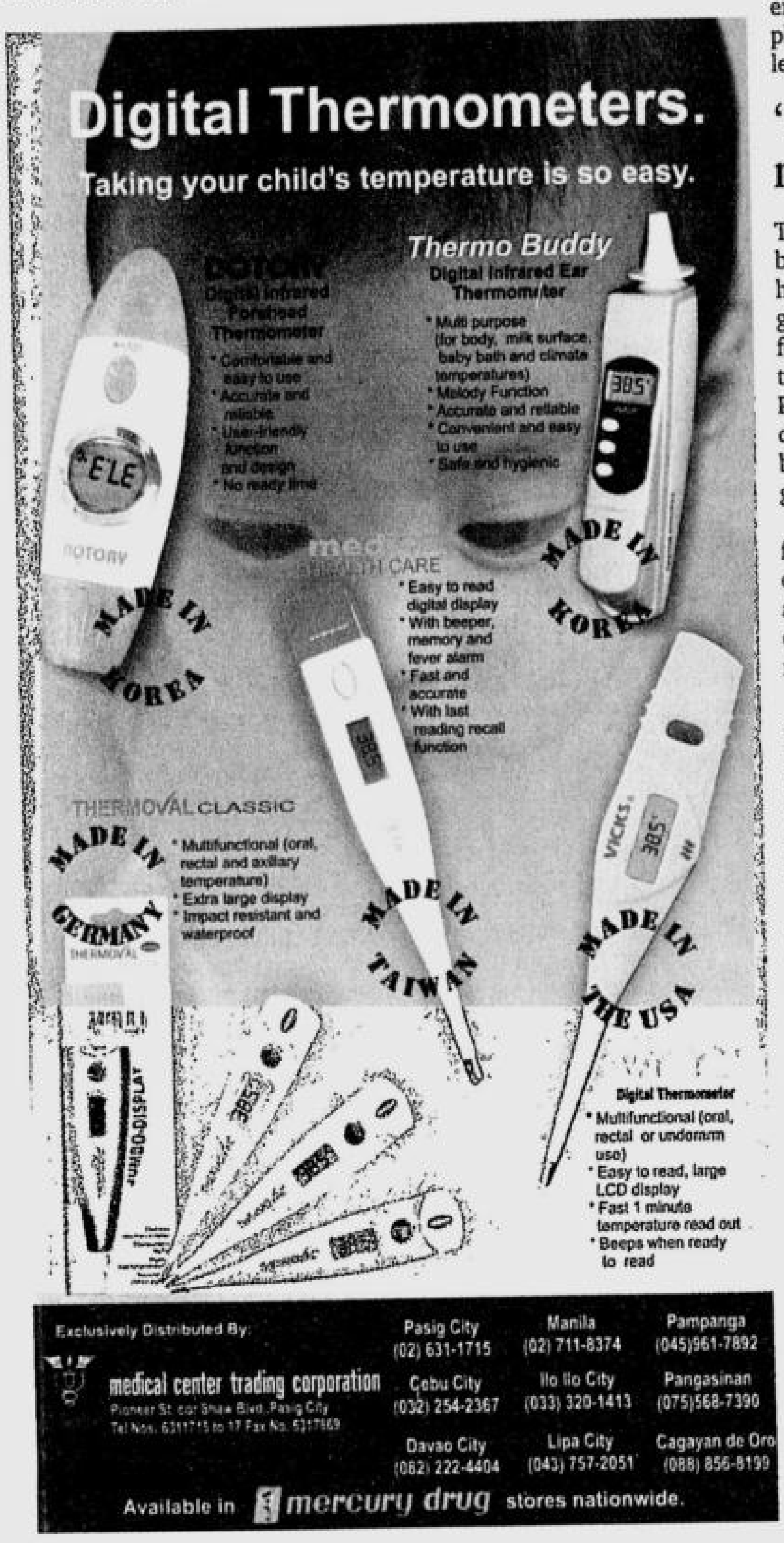
Substandard RP passports

THIS IS TO CALL THE ATTENTION of the passport division of the Department of Foreign Affairs to the substandard materials being used in Philippine passports.

The plastic lamination over my passport photo was torn when an immigration officer abroad opened my passport. My experience was not an isolated case. I learned from several colleagues that they, too, had the same experience.

I urge the DFA to look into the matter and come up with measures to ensure that Philippine passports can withstand reasonable wear and tear. I had to have my passport replaced because the embassies where I had to apply for a visa would not accept passports with torn laminations.

—LOURDES BERNARDO,
1221 Bocobo St., Malate, Manila



Digital Thermometers.
Taking your child's temperature is so easy.
Thermo Buddy
Digital Infrared Ear Thermometer
* Multi purpose (for body, milk surface, baby bath and climate temperatures)
* Melody Function
* Accurate and reliable
* Convenient and easy to use
* Safe and hygienic
Digital Infrared Forehead Thermometer
* Comfortable and easy to use
* Accurate and reliable
* User-friendly function and design
* No ready time
MADE IN KOREA
MADE IN KOREA
* Easy to read digital display
* With beeper, memory and fever alarm
* Fast and accurate
* With last reading recall function
THERMOVAL CLASSIC
* Multifunctional (oral, rectal and axillary temperature)
* Extra large display
* Impact resistant and waterproof
MADE IN GERMANY
MADE IN TAIWAN
MADE IN THE USA
Digital Thermometer
* Multifunctional (oral, rectal or underarm use)
* Easy to read, large LCD display
* Fast 1 minute temperature read out
* Beeps when ready to read
Exclusively Distributed By:
medical center trading corporation
Pioneer St. cor Shaw Blvd., Pasig City
Tel Nos. 6311715 to 17 Fax No. 6317569
Pasig City (02) 631-1715
Manila (02) 711-8374
Pampanga (045)961-7892
Cebu City (032) 254-2367
Ilo Ilo City (033) 320-1413
Pangasinan (075)568-7390
Davao City (082) 222-4404
Lipa City (043) 757-2051
Cagayan de Oro (088) 856-8199
Available in mercury drug stores nationwide.

Go Gloria, good luck, Philippines

THE STATE HAS THE RIGHT TO DEFEND ITself from chaos and anarchy and lawlessness. I support Presidential Proclamation 1017. It is time that we contained the destabilizers and the self-proclaimed "defenders" of our democracy. They have been making a lot of noise about just anything to pin down President Macapagal-Arroyo. They have scooped up all the dirt in the world to throw at her face.

My question is: what have these destabilizers contributed to improve the lives of our people? Some of them are former senators, civic leaders and government officials. The "fears" of people who are supposed to be "concerned" about democratic values are unfounded, unwarranted and exaggerated. They are just making an issue out of nothing.

Since the issuance of Proclamation 1017, has there been a citizen arrested innocently? The people who have been arrested are those who prominently played a role in the coup. Their destabilization efforts did not prosper because people sensed their bad motives and evil ends. People know love of country when they see one. If the GMA-bashers really love the Philippines, they should be working for prosperity and peace.

Those of us working abroad are monitoring closely the situation there. We can only heave a sigh of relief with Proclamation 1017. I am not a fan of the President, but I say, "Go, Gloria, go!" Hunt down the evil people and the cowards and the selfish and the greedy.

It is time that the government flexed its muscles. GMA should not accept a mere push-up as punishment for the military men involved in the coup. She should court-martial them, and charge the civilians in court. Good luck Philippines!

—JUDE SANSON,
tamidles@yahoo.com

'Righteousness makes a nation great'

THE EDSA I REVOLUTION IS SUPPOSED TO be one of the most glorious moments in the history of the Philippines and of the world. It gave birth to People Power and paved the way for the downfall of an oppressive regime. But the 20th anniversary celebration of People Power did not push through because the President proclaimed a state of national emergency, by force of which people were prohibited from gathering at the Edsa Shrine.

Those who defied the proclamation were forcibly dispersed by the police with water cannons and truncheons. Others were arrested and detained. What irony. The primary beneficiary of People Power II has now become the nemesis of People Power.

"Righteousness makes a nation great; sin is a disgrace to any nation." (Proverbs 14:34) Ferdinand Marcos and Joseph Estrada did not heed this wise counsel and they were deposed by People Power. President Macapagal-Arroyo must learn from history and should avoid repeating it.

A nation like the Philippines can be great if righteousness and justice reign. But if the sins of injustice, graft and corruption, influence-peddling and the like, continue unabated, then we will remain a nation of "hewers of wood and drawers of water." We will continue to be a nation mired in poverty and corruption. Moses warns those who keep on sinning: "You can be sure that your sin will track you down." (Numbers 32:23)

Let us, leaders and people, heed the Proverbs. Let GMA lead us to righteousness and justice if she wants to remain in power. "Let justice flow like a stream, and righteousness like a river that never goes dry." (Amos 5:24)

Shall we continue in sin and remain in disgrace? No! We admonish the President to lead us to repentance. May God have mercy on us!

—SOLITO K. TOQUERO,
bishop, The United Methodist Church,
Manila Episcopal Area

Genuine change, not just Charter change

THE HELLO GARCI SCANDAL THAT OUTraged Filipinos middle of last year refuses to die. It continues to smolder. Clearly at issue is the legitimacy of the current President amid allegations of massive fraud and cheating exposed by the Hello Garci tapes. It is also clear the people have not been appeased by the action of Congress to vote down the impeachment process.

Comes now the proposal to resolve the problem by shifting to a parliamentary form of government through Charter change. The President was only too willing to create a Constitutional Commission which acted with amazing speed in submitting proposed changes to the 1987 Constitution.

We view the whole process of the Charter change with alarm. The timing of the proposal to amend the Constitution and shift to a parliamentary form of government is suspect. Some of the provisions that are being eyed for amendment are those that seek to protect our right to self-determination, our country's integrity and our people's dignity against the rapacious greed for commerce.

Charter change is being proposed at a time when the executive branch of government is being indicted by the people for graft and corruption, election fraud, subservience to foreign dictates and insensitivity to the larger issue of genuine change. Charter change is being rammed down our throats at a time of deep social, economic and political crisis. Charter change is inspired more by President Macapagal-Arroyo's desperate need for political survival rather than by the primordial interest of the citizens of this republic.

Amending the Constitution and changing the form of government are not the solution to the ills now plaguing this country. Ferreting out the truth and letting the wheels of justice take their course are the means by which change can come about. Addressing the roots of the problems of poverty, corruption, war and governance is the only way we can get on the road to genuine change.

We oppose the move to amend the 1987 Constitution.

We call on our church leaders to start a massive education campaign and to expose the dire consequences of such a move.

We are launching the Church Forum Against Charter Change which, in cooperation with other objectors, will plan and coordinate the courses of action of church people opposed to Charter change.

—SIGNED BY 13 MEMBERS
OF CHURCHPEOPLE'S FORUM AGAINST
CHARTER CHANGE
c/o ecumenicalbishops@yahoo.com

No moral ascendancy to lecture on 1017

IN THE FAILED MILITARY COUP ATTEMPTS, we are merely reaping the wages of "back-to-the-barracks" and "20-push-ups" military justice.

Not surprisingly, the ones protesting the government's decisive move (Proclamation 1017) to preserve the State were the most responsible for allowing the preservation of the politicized military we have to deal with today.

If then Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos had meted out genuine military justice to the 1989 putschists—among them, Gringo Honasan, Danilo Lim and Ariel Querubin—we would not have to face military adventurism every once so often. For those who bear arms for the State, the obligation to respect the Constitution and constitutional authority is unconditional. If they want to be political players, they should divest themselves of their arms.

Neither Ramos nor Cory Aquino, who let the genie out of the bottle in 1986 and failed to put it back in 1989, has the moral ascendancy to lecture us on Proclamation 1017.

—CENON MAKALINAO,
cmakalinao@yahoo.com

PNP first before the media

BEFORE GEN. ARTURO LOMIBAO imposes guidelines on the media, he should first issue guidelines to his own men, over whom he seems to have no control.

This letter concerns especially the policemen manning traffic in Metro Manila. All through Edsa, you see buses loading and unloading passengers in the middle of the highway, putting them at risk, because the drivers are too lazy to go to the loading/unloading areas.

Along Commonwealth Avenue and Quezon Avenue in Quezon City, jeepneys and buses pile up at loading/unloading zones, taking up most of the lanes so that traffic gets congested. In-between, they also load and unload in the center of the road. Not only that, they weave over to the innermost lane to get past other vehicles, then suddenly swerve to the right to unload passengers in the middle lanes. Accidents are only avoided due to the alertness of the other drivers whose path they cut.

All throughout España, it is the same thing. Sometimes, the traffic congestion stretches all the way from Quiapo to UST and even beyond, on the southbound lanes, because the jeepneys, FX taxis and buses are loading or unloading passengers—especially in no loading/unloading areas, like the exit in the Lerma-toQuiapo underpass.

There is a loading/unloading area, but this is ignored with impunity by jeepney drivers—as long as they fork over P5 to the candy and sampaguita vendors who are said to be "collectors" of the traffic enforcers.

The authorities put up a divider on the stretch leading to Quezon Bridge, but it seems not to do the job of ensuring smooth traffic flow (if that was the intention, in the first place, or was it for "other reasons"?), as jeepneys going to Quiapo-Ilalim use the lane inside the divider to load and unload passengers—again, this is a no-loading/unloading zone.

The same situation exists along Taft Avenue and all other streets going south, north, west or east where jeepneys abound. The jeepney driver takes his "king of the road" status very seriously, while traffic enforcers look the other way.

The only solution to our traffic problems in Metro Manila is for the traffic enforcers to really enforce traffic. Lomibao should look into this instead of cluttering his mind with the pros and cons of politics in the media.

Let the media do their work unhampered and without intimidation. Make the policemen on the beat do their work. It doesn't take a miracle to control Lomibao's subordinates, only a bit of hands-on management.

He should also look into the "reasons" why the police can be bullies toward peaceful ralliers but remain helpless in the face of traffic snarls caused by their own negligence.

—MITOS S. GARCIA,
c/o National Press Club,
Magallanes Drive,
Intramuros, Manila

A 'moot and academic' question?

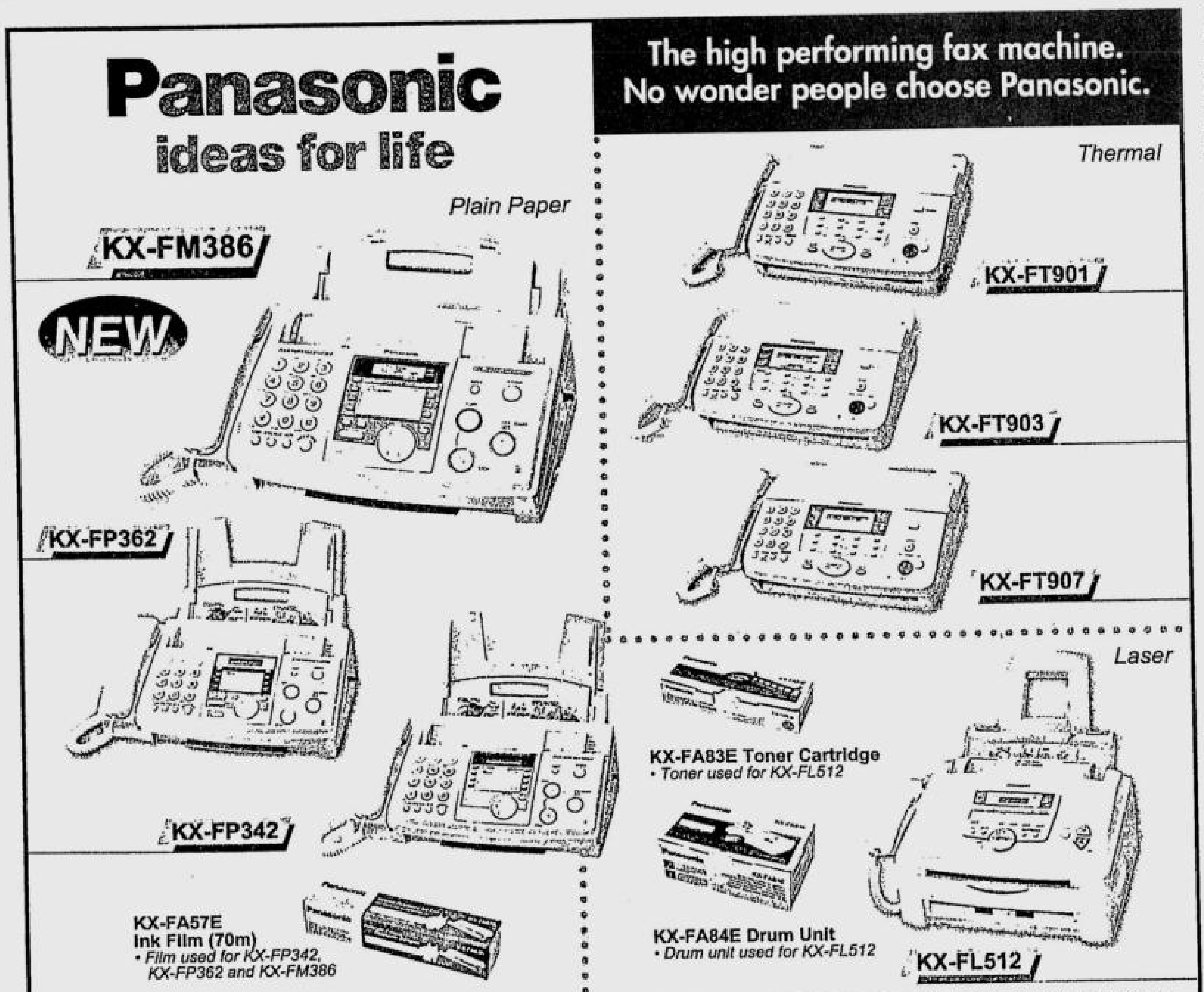
I REFER TO THE INQUIRER NEWS report "Gov't argues petition vs 1017 moot." (PDI, 3/7/06)

If the cars of the lawyers who are defending Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's Proclamation 1017 were stolen, but later returned to them by the car thief, could the latter plead that he has no case to answer because the crime has become "moot and academic"?

—IAIN ROGERS,
Flat 4/B, 1-3 Shin Hing St.,
Hong Kong

IF you have any complaints, grievances or suggestions about the treatment of news and photos by the Inquirer, you may write to the Readers' Advocate, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue, corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, City of Makati or send a fax to Nos. 897-4793, 897-4794, or e-mail readersadvocate@ inquirer.com.ph

Writers of letters to the editor are requested to include their complete address and telephone or pager number or e-mail address for verification purposes. The Inquirer will not publish any letter unless such information is supplied.



KX-FA83E Toner Cartridge
• Toner used for KX-FL512

KX-FA84E Drum Unit
• Drum unit used for KX-FL512

KX-FA57E
Ink Film (70m)
• Film used for KX-FP342, KX-FP362 and KX-FM386

KEY FEATURES	KX-FT901	KX-FT903	KX-FT907	KX-FP342	KX-FP362	KX-FM386	KX-FL512
Automatic Paper Cutter		●	●				
Document Feeder	10 sheets	10 sheets	10 sheets	10 sheets	10 sheets	10 sheets	20 sheets
Navigator Key	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
64-Level Halftone	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Copy Speed				4 PPM	4 PPM	4 PPM	10 PPM
Digital Speaker Phone			●		●	●	
Document Memory		20 pages (max)	20 pages (max)	28 pages (max)	28 pages (max)	28 pages (max)	170 pages (max)
Digital Answering System			●		●	●	
Sequential Broadcast		10 locations	10 locations	20 locations	20 locations	20 locations	20 locations
Printer Function						●	●
Scanner Function						●	●
PC Fax						●	
*Caller-ID Ready	●	●	●			●	●
Dial Lock Function	●	●	●				

*Caller-ID subscription required. Features and design are subject to change without prior notice.

For dealer referrals, please call: **Panasonic Philippines (Sales Division of PMPC)**
Tel. Nos. 899-4595 to 98 • Fax No. 897-4558 • Email Address: pmpc_systemsales@ph.panasonic.com

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The Board of Foreign Service Examinations of the Department of Foreign Affairs announces the holding of the -

FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER (FSO) EXAMINATIONS

to recruit candidates for appointment to the position of Foreign Service Officer Class IV (FSO IV).

The Examinations is composed of three (3) parts which will be held on the following dates:

Qualifying Test: 28 May 2006
Written Examination: 23, 24 and 25 August 2006
Oral Examinations: To be determined at a later date

IMPORTANT:

(1) Application forms and relevant information regarding the examinations may be downloaded from the Department of Foreign Affairs website **(www.dfa.gov.ph).** Forms may also be obtained personally or requested through mail from the following offices of the Department of Foreign Affairs:

DFA Main Office: Board of Foreign Service Examinations, Department of Foreign Affairs, DFA Building, 2330 Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City ° Tels. (02) 834-3080, 834-3083 ° Fax (02) 551-5976

DFA RCO Lucena: 3rd Floor, Pacific Mall Lucena, M.L. Tagarao St., Barangay III, Lucena City ° Tels. (042) 710-4526 ° Fax (042) 373-1898 ° Email: dfarcolc@pldtdsl.net

DFA Mindanao and DFA RCO Davao City: Ebro-Pelayo Building, E. Jacinto Street, Davao City ° Tels. (082) 227-3900, 224-4885, 227-0713 ° Fax (082) 221-4552, 227-0712 ° Email: davaorco@ultimate.info.com.ph, davaorco@yahoo.com

DFA RCO Cagayan de Oro: Geleng Building, Lapasan Highway, Cagayan de Oro City ° Tels. (08822) 724-309, 720-122 ° Fax (08822) 726-578 ° Email: rcocdo@yahoo.com

DFA RCO La Union: Pasado Building, Pagdalagan Norte, San Fernando, La Union ° Tels. (072) 888-3733, 242-7694 ° Fax (072) 888-5484 ° Email: dfa_launion@sflu.com

DFA RCO Clark Field: Balikbayan Shopping Mall, Claro M. Recto Avenue, Clarkfield, Angeles, Pampanga ° Tels. (045) 599-7777 ° Fax No. (045) 599-6555 ° Email: rcopampanga@yahoo.com

DFA RCO Cebu: Causing Lozada Building, Osmena Blvd. cor Lapu-lapu Street, Cebu City ° Tels. (032) 256-3193 ° Fax (032) 256-0624, 253- 6798 ° Email: dfacebu@cvis.net.ph, cebu@dfa.gov.ph

DFA RCO Iloilo: Yulo Street, Iloilo City ° Tels. (033) 336-1737 ° Fax (033) 335-0221 ° Email: dfa_ilo@mozcom.com

DFA RCO Zamboanga: Go-Velayo Building, Veterans Avenue, Zamboanga City ° Tels. (062) 991-4398 ° Fax (062) 991-7958 ° Email: rcozambo@jetlink.com, zamboanga@dfa.gov.ph

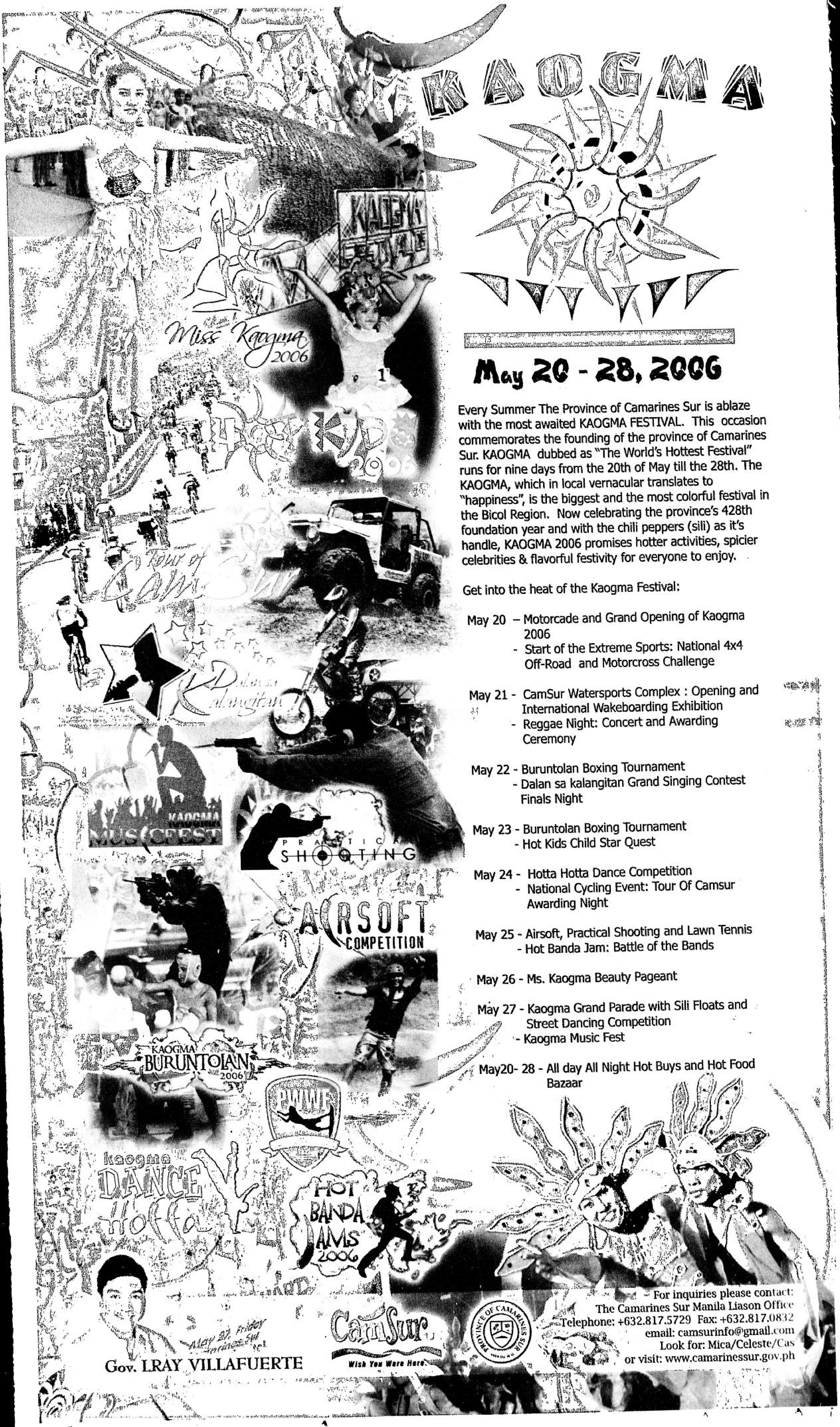
DFA RCO Legazpi: 3/F City Hall Building, Legazpi City ° Tels. (052) 480-3000, 820-3396 ° Fax (052) 480-1773 ° Email: info@dfalegazpi.bayandsl.ph, admin@dfalegaspi.bayandsl.ph

DFA RCO Tacloban: Leyte SMED Center, Capitol Site, Tacloban City ° Tels. (053) 321-8232, 321-8233 ° Fax (053) 321-8237 ° Email: taclobanrco@dfa.gov.ph, dfa_rcotac@globline.com.ph

DFA RCO Tuguegarao: Municipal Building, Tuguegarao, Cagayan Valley ° Tels (078) 846-2310, 846-1482 ° Fax (078) 846-2310 ° Email: fritzie_rcotug@yahoo.com

(2) Application forms may also be obtained from the Regional Offices of the Civil Service Commission.

(3) Completed application forms together with the documentary requirements must be returned to any of the DFA Regional Consular Offices enumerated above not later than **10 May 2006,** or to the DFA Main Office not later than **12 May 2006,** for evaluation and processing.


KAOGMA
KAOGMA FESTIVAL
Miss Kaogma 2006
Hot Kids 2006
Tour of CamSur
Dalan sa Kalangitan
KAOGMA MUSICFEST
PRACTICAL SHOOTING
AIRSOFT COMPETITION
KAOGMA BURUNTOLAN 2006
PWWF
kaogma DANCE Hotta
HOT BANDA JAMS 2006
CamSur
Wish You Were Here.
PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR

May 20 - 28, 2006

Every Summer The Province of Camarines Sur is ablaze with the most awaited KAOGMA FESTIVAL. This occasion commemorates the founding of the province of Camarines Sur. KAOGMA dubbed as "The World's Hottest Festival" runs for nine days from the 20th of May till the 28th. The KAOGMA, which in local vernacular translates to "happiness", is the biggest and the most colorful festival in the Bicol Region. Now celebrating the province's 428th foundation year and with the chili peppers (sili) as it's handle, KAOGMA 2006 promises hotter activities, spicier celebrities & flavorful festivity for everyone to enjoy.

Get into the heat of the Kaogma Festival:

May 20 – Motorcade and Grand Opening of Kaogma 2006
- Start of the Extreme Sports: National 4x4 Off-Road and Motorcross Challenge

May 21 - CamSur Watersports Complex : Opening and International Wakeboarding Exhibition
- Reggae Night: Concert and Awarding Ceremony

May 22 - Buruntolan Boxing Tournament
- Dalan sa kalangitan Grand Singing Contest Finals Night

May 23 - Buruntolan Boxing Tournament
- Hot Kids Child Star Quest

May 24 - Hotta Hotta Dance Competition
- National Cycling Event: Tour Of Camsur Awarding Night

May 25 - Airsoft, Practical Shooting and Lawn Tennis
- Hot Banda Jam: Battle of the Bands

May 26 - Ms. Kaogma Beauty Pageant

May 27 - Kaogma Grand Parade with Sili Floats and Street Dancing Competition
- Kaogma Music Fest

May20- 28 - All day All Night Hot Buys and Hot Food Bazaar

Gov. LRAY VILLAFUERTE

For inquiries please contact:
The Camarines Sur Manila Liason Office
Telephone: +632.817.5729 Fax: +632.817.0832
email: camsurinfo@gmail.com
Look for: Mica/Celeste/Cas
or visit: www.camarinessur.gov.ph

www.dls-csb.edu.ph

Teaching Hospitality: A Training Program for Educators

April 24-29, 2006

Participants will receive a certificate, hand-outs, morning and afternoon snacks, and lunch for six days.

De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde
School of Hotel, Restaurant and Institution Management

A summer program for hotel and restaurant management educators that will offer two modules simultaneously: *Rooms Division* and *Food and Beverage Division.*

Facilitated by the industry-based faculty of De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde's School of Hotel, Restaurant and Institution Management (SHRIM), each module includes a discussion of teaching foundations of hotel and restaurant management courses. A significant portion of the sessions will be devoted to hands-on simulation and exercises in order to equip non-industry practitioners the basic skills required by the industry.

SHRIM is the first hotel-school in the country to receive a Level 2 Accreditation from the Philippine Accrediting Association of Schools, Colleges, and Universities (PAASCU).

SCHOOL of HOTEL, RESTAURANT and
INSTITUTION MANAGEMENT
De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde
DLS-CSB Angelo King International Center
Estrada cor. Arellano Sts., Malate, Manila

Tel. Nos.: 400-7407, 525-7562
Telefax: 400-7408
Email: shrim@dls-csb.edu.ph

De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde
2544 Taft Avenue, Manila, Philippines 1004

New Zealand
KALEIDOSCOPE TOUR PACKAGE

9 Days/7 Nights
FROM JUST
$1,958
PER PERSON

HOLY WEEK SURCHARGE APPLIES

VISIT ALL THESE CITIES:
- AUCKLAND
- ROTORUA
- CHRISTCHURCH
- TWIZEL
- QUEENSTOWN
- DUNEDIN

INCLUDES:
- ✓ Roundtrip airfare via AIR NEW ZEALAND
- ✓ Roundtrip airport transfers
- ✓ Hotel accommodations & meals
- ✓ Complete tour & sightseeing with:
  - Shows
  - Cable car ride
  - Jet boat ride
  - Milford Sound cruise

DEPARTS MARCH 24, APRIL 12, APRIL 28, MAY 12, MAY 26.
SURCHARGE TO APPLY DURING PEAK TRAVEL

For more information and reservations, please call any of the following travel agents:

FAIR TRAVEL AND TOURS	829-1668 820-8233
FIESTA TOURS AND TRAVEL	521-7866 to 69
KING OF TRAVEL	816-4411
NORTH STAR INTL TRAVEL	885-7212 / 885-7248
PHILIPPINE WORLD TRAVEL	892-0441 to 48
TRAVELPLUS	523-4492 to 94
TRI-C's TRAVEL AND TOURS	681-5444 to 48 *Cainta* 995-7465 to 69 / 995-7471 *Cubao* (075)568-3168 / 568-3265 *Pangasinan*
VOYAGER TRAVEL AND TOURS	893-1461 / 893-5290
WINLINK TRAVEL SERVICES	525-6306 / 522-5446

AIR NEW ZEALAND
Reservations: +632 884-8097 to 98

DESTINATIONS
Tel. No.: +632 896-4811

UP TO 70% OFF

GREAT AUDIO-VIDEO & PRO-AUDIO 2006 SALE

CELESTION
SoundTech PROFESSIONAL AUDIO
APOGEE SOUND INTERNATIONAL LLC
YAMAHA
SENNHEISER evolution MICROPHONES
TANNOY

FREE A pair of TANNOY FUSION K Compact Speakers for a minimum of PhP 50,000.00 single purchase of select Pro Audio & Audio Video products

FREE A pair of TANNOY FUSION 2 Compact Speakers for a minimum of PhP 100,000.00 single purchase of select Pro Audio & Audio Video

FREE A pair of YAMAHA S55 Compact Speakers for a minimum of PhP 200,000.00 single purchase of select Pro Audio & Audio Video products

FREE One (1) YAMAHA Stagepas 300 Portable PA System for a minimum of PhP 300,000.00 single purchase of select Pro Audio & Audio Video products.

OFFER GOOD FROM MARCH 16 TO APRIL 30, 2006
EXTENDED WARRANTY UP TO 2 YEARS
(except for premiums)

Available thru EASYCREDIT up to 24 months to pay.

Subject to Credit Approval & 25% down payment with a minimum purchase of PHP 5,000.00 Invoice Value (single transaction only). Balance payable by Post Dated Checks.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0542, Series of, 2006

YUPANGCO ELECTRONICS CORPORATION
339 Gil J. Puyat Avenue, Makati City 1200
Direct Lines 899-9735 • 899-9757 to 59 • Fax Nos. 899-7777 & 899-8888
Toll Free No. 1-800-1-888-9595 • E-mail: info@yupangco.com

Available at the Main Office Showroom, MusicSpot Outlets, Perfect Pitch Stores or Yamaha Music Stores near you.

www.yupangco.com
EASYCREDIT

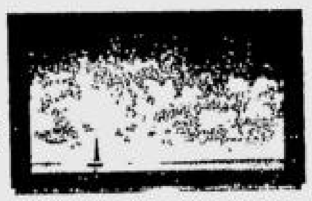
JVC
Anson's

0% SUMMER FROLIC

MARCH 12 to 31, 2006

HD-Z70RX5
Widescreen HD-ILA CTV
SRP : P 299,900
P 24,991.66
12 MOS.

LT-32AX5
LCD TV with D.I.S.T.
SRP : P132,580
P 11,048.33
12 MOS.

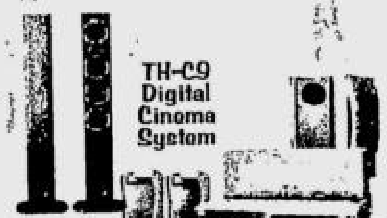


LT-Z26SX5
LCD TV with D.I.S.T.
SRP : P 132,580
P 11,048.33
12 MOS.

DX-T9
1200 W DVD Audio Video Entertainment System
SRP : P 27,990
P 2,332.50
12 MOS.

DX-T5
3500 W DVD Audio Video system
SRP : P 18,990
P 1,582.50
12 MOS.

MX-JE31
Audio Video system
SRP : P 13,490
P 1,124.16
12 MOS.



TH-C9
Digital Cinema System
SRP : P 42,880
P 3,573.33
12 MOS.

GZ-MC500
High band 3 CCD camcorder
SRP : P 86,680
P 7,223.33
12 MOS.

GZ-MG70
Hard disk camcorder
SRP : P 71,380
P 5,948.33
12 MOS.

GZ-MG40
Hard disk camcorder
SRP : P 61,180
P 5,098.33
12 MOS.

GZ-MG20
Hard disk camcorder
SRP : P 50,980
P 4,248.33
12 MOS.

Avail the " CUT N SAVE " Promo for EVERIO Hard Disk Camcorders. See leaflets for details.

This 0% Summer Frolic Installment Plan is applicable to all Major Card holders.

PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO. 0879 SERIES OF 2006

JVC
The Perfect Experience

WE BEAT ANYBODY'S PRICE!

- ANSON BUILDING, AYALA CENTER, MAKATI CITY (facing Park Square 2) 845-3006 to 08
- THE LANDMARK
  819-1513 / 819-1354
- ALABANG TOWN CENTER
  772-3684 - 85
- ROBINSONS GALLERIA
  832-9483 - 85
- SALAZAR ST., BINONDO
  241-3850 / 243-2101

NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074)443-9255
Fax No. (074)443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU
2nd Floor, Los Baños Bldg.
Cor. Peñaranda and Aguinaldo Sts.
Legazpi City
Telefax No. (052) 480-4182
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph
Across the NATION
Text us your feedback: inquirer atn name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

VISAYAS BUREAU
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: inq_cebu@inquirer.com.ph

MINDANAO BUREAU
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. No. (082)244-1770 to 71
Fax No. (082)244-1771
E-mail: inq_davao@inquirer.com.ph

2 rebels, soldier slain in Cebu clash

By Jhunnex Napallacan and Carla P. Gomez
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—TWO NEW PEOPLE'S ARMY (NPA) rebels, including a top leader, and one soldier were killed in an encounter yesterday in a village in Tabuelan town, 86.9 km north of the city.

Military and police officials identified one of the rebels as Jimmy Badayos, alleged secretary of the NPA Front Committee 2 operating in one city and eight towns in the mid-north Cebu area. His aliases included Warren, Jin, Vassily and Cyrus.

"Being a secretary of Front 2, Badayos was actually the top leader and right-hand of Central Visayas Regional Party Committee of the CPP-NPA head Kumander Roy Erecre," said Lt. Col. Jefferson Omandam, Armed Forces Central Command (Centcom) spokesperson.

He said the death of Badayos was a big setback to the NPA unit operating in Danao City and the towns of Balamban, Asturias, Tuburan, Tabuelan, Catmon, Carmen, part of Compostela and Sogod.

The other rebel fatality was identified as Guillermo Alburo, alias Jed.

Omandam refused to identify the lone government fatality pending notification of his family. But he said the soldier had the rank of private first class and suffered two bullet wounds in the chest.

About 50 Tabuelan policemen and soldiers of the 78th Infantry Battalion went to Sitio Kalumbrisan, Barangay Dalid in Tabuelan to check reports of the presence of armed men in the area.

Omandam said the team was fired upon by about 20 rebels at 7:21 a.m. An exchange of gunfire ensued, which lasted more than hour, ensued.

He said the rebels left behind their two fallen comrades, an M-16 rifle, a Motorola radio with charger, tape recorder with two cassette tapes, cellular phone, hand grenade, personal belongings and antigovernment documents.

Omandam said the firearm was owned by Pfc. Donald Ramirez who was killed in an encounter last year in Barangay Somon, Tuburan.

Police provincial director Senior Supt. Vicente Loot said the bodies of Badayos and Alburo were brought to the town's sports complex and later to a funeral home in this city for autopsy.

In Escalante City, Negros Occidental, at least 40 NPA rebels fled with nine high-powered firearms yesterday morning after raiding the detachment of the PNP's 1st Regional Mobile Group.

NPA attack

Provincial police director Senior Supt. Charles Calima said the rebels took two M-14 rifles, two M-16 rifles, three Garand rifles, a .45 cal. pistol and an M-60 machine gun from the detachment at Sitio Cubay, Barangay Malasibog in Escalante, 102.1 km north of Bacolod City.

No one was hurt among the two policemen and eight Civilian Volunteers Organization members who were on duty at that time, said Calima.

He said the 10 were caught off-guard while having breakfast when 30-40 guerrillas barged into the detachment at 6 a.m.

The police personnel had returned to the detachment at about 3 p.m. after securing a nearby fiesta dance.

An Army intelligence officer, who asked not to be named, told the INQUIRER that some of those on duty were sleeping in their quarters when the raiders came.

Calima said the detachment personnel led by PO3 Antonio Bravo and 1st RMG Chief Flomar Natuel, had been relieved from their post following the incident.

Chief Supt. Doroteo Reyes, police director for Western Visayas, arrived in Negros Occidental to supervise pursuit operations against the raiders.

Dynamite blasting scaring whales in Babuyan

By Blanche S. Rivera

FISHERMEN IN THE ONCE TRANquil Babuyan Islands in Cagayan province are literally having a blast.

Local fishermen, citing poor catch in recent months, have resorted to dynamite blasting to salvage metal from shipwrecks surrounding the islands, according to the World Wildlife Fund (WWF)-Philippines.

It is said to be the newest and most environmentally damaging source of livelihood in the islands, said the WWF, which conducts an annual onsite monitoring of the Babuyan Islands for its Humpback Whale Research and Development Project.

The blasting are scaring away the Pacific humpback whales that come to the Philippines to breed this time of the year, it said.

The dynamite blasts were also inevitably destroying the coral reefs in the Camiguin Island, where the blasts have been monitored.

The WWF records an average of 100 sightings in the Babuyan Islands annually but fears that this would be reduced due to the dynamite blasts.

"We will continue to monitor the whales to see if the blasting has a direct impact on the whales ... although definitely there must be permanent damage to the coral reefs in the area," WWF consultant Jomarie Acebes said in a phone interview.

Located about 50 km north of the Luzon mainland, the Babuyan Islands has the highest known cetacean species diversity in the Philippines, hosting 14 of the 25 known cetacean species in the world including the humpback whale, sperm whale and bottle-nosed dolphin.

The WWF team that arrived in Camiguin Island north of Cagayan province on Feb. 17 has recorded up to six blasts per hour almost daily. On March 18, just days after the Calayan police arrived in Camiguin, four blasts were recorded again.

"The blasts are really loud. You can hear it even up to eight kilometers from the shore. That's very loud considering that the dynamites explode under water," Acebes said.

The locals themselves have admitted that those who go out for blasting use about a gallon of dynamite for every trip, she said. They dive to plant the dynamites in the shipwrecks and then recover the steel that comes loose due to the explosion.

The scrap metals are sold in the island for about P4 per kilo. The dealer from the island then sells the scrap in Aparri or Cagayan for about P10 per kilo, Acebes said.

There are at least five known shipwrecks surrounding Camiguin Island, all of which are in the breeding ground of humpback whales that travel to the Babuyan Islands before proceeding to Alaska and Russia to feed.

The shipwrecks, which are more than 20 years old, have become artificial reefs that serve as refuge and breeding ground for fish.

Acebes said the locals have been salvaging metal from the shipwrecks for about two years now, but they used to dive and use acetylene to recover the loose scraps.

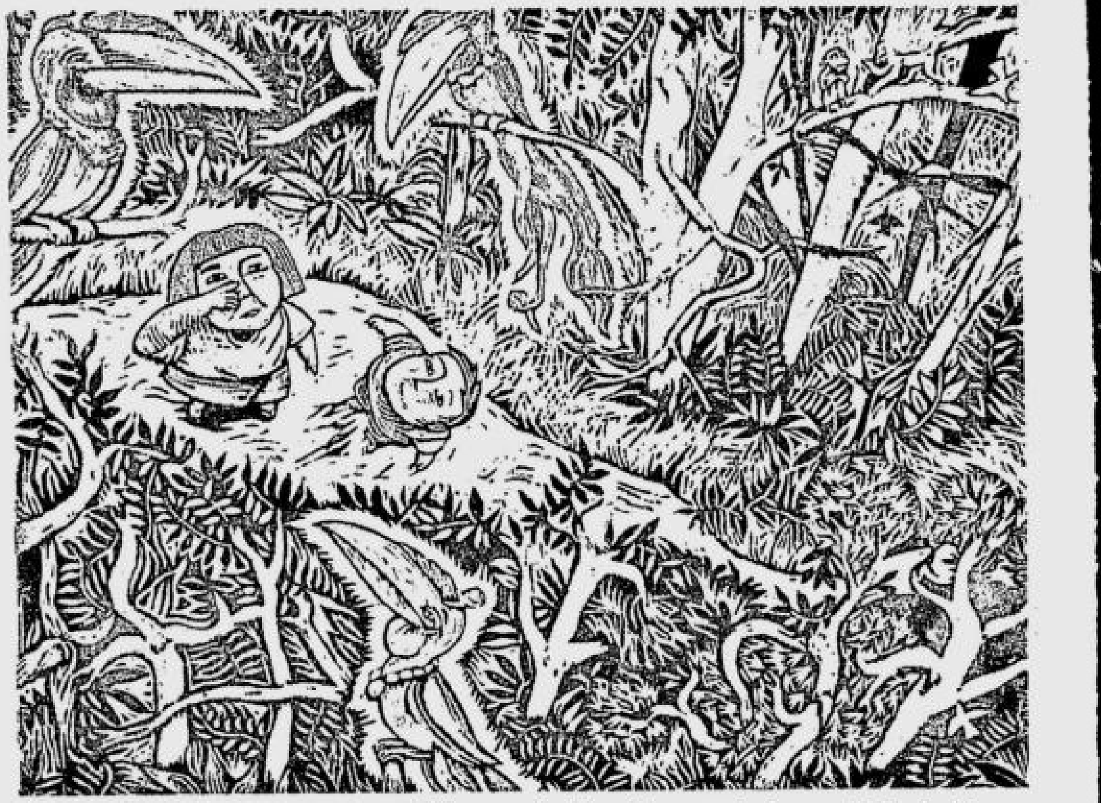
The locals have only started to use dynamites the past months because they wanted to get bigger pieces of metal, she said.

The Cagayan provincial government passed an ordinance in 2003 declaring the humpback whales as protected species within the territorial jurisdiction of the province.

The WWF has written Calayan Mayor Joseph Llopis to inform him of the blasting. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources have also been informed of the illegal activity.

The Calayan police have also visited Camiguin and apprehended the locals for the blasting but the WWF revealed that no police report has been filed in Calayan about the blasts.

Pressures such as illegal hunting and overfishing have threatened the global population of cetaceans. Humpbacks are listed as endangered under the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and the US Endangered Species Act.



A PAGE from the book "Moonbeams" illustrated with rubber cuts by Leonardo Aguinaldo, 2004 Grand Prize winner of the Asean Art Award. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Environmentalism as told to kids

By Vincent Cabreza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—AN ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOcacy group thinks preaching the values of tree fairies to schoolchildren will get Mother Earth more mileage than protest marches.

The Cordillera Green Network Inc., a Baguio-based reforestation crusader, launched on March 12 a children's book called "Moonbeams," one of 129 stories submitted to CGN's first ecological writing competition in 2005. CGN plans to publish most of these children's stories as part of a new advocacy strategy.

"We want to teach environmentalism, but we realize that if we are fighting for our children, we must show the children what the fight is all about. So we are producing children's books to promote the management of the environment instead," said filmmaker Jo Banasan, CGN executive director.

Banasan said CGN did not expect to find a wealth of stories from contest entries.

A story called "Tailings' Dam," by Maureen Loste, explores a child's experience with a mine, and these are some of the stories now being lined up for publishing, Banasan said.

Loste and her husband, Manuel, Bayan Muna national vice chair, have been opposing corporate mining.

"CGN is all about promoting the soul [of ecology], and we want to offer information that is accessible to everyone, especially children of the Cordillera, where [old school] mining and logging have contributed to the destruction of the region's virgin forests," she said.

CGN principally espouses reforestation.

Ties with the Japan Fund for Global Environment and the Kiyosato Educational and Experiment Project allowed CGN to create a 20-hectare tree nurturing facility in Benguet, and another 20-hectare tree farm in Apayao.

All these efforts will go to rot once communities stop sustaining these forests, "which is why it is important for children to understand the legacy we are leaving them," Banasan said.

"Children understand stories because stories are always magical. In Kalinga where I grew up, I always looked forward to visiting the fields where a storyteller stays. I enjoyed those stories, so I am certain children of today will enjoy CGN's stories," she said.

"Moonbeams," written by Baguio-based freelance writer Nonette Bennett, took the CGN contest's top prize, and was selected as its first book because it was a story "with no borders," Banasan said.

Illustrated by Leonardo Aguinaldo, 2004 Asean Art Award grand prize winner, "Moonbeams," tells the story of siblings Ambic and Ambit who live on a mountain.

The children frequent a waterfall to visit tree fairies, formed from moonbeams cast at the highland's calm surface every night.

But the adults of their community no longer believe in fairies, and they ignore the children's plea when they allow farmer Pedped to clear a section of the mountain forest for his vegetable garden.

The fairies disappear, and in their absence, the gardens dry up and the mountain loses its resources.

Banasan said like many other stories submitted to CGN, "Moonbeams" presents children both the ideal and the practical points of view.

Bennett's story allows children to understand why the farmer needed to clear the forests, while exploring the consequences of his actions.

HOSPITAL HEALTHCARE PRODUCTS

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM AT MERCURY DRUG STORE
2nd Flr. Glorietta 3, Makati

Caring for you in Every Way!

- Surgical Gloves Sterile
- Gauze Pad
- Kelly's Pad
- Elastic Bandage
- Male Urinal
- Surgical Hospital Gauze
- Invalid Ring
- Examination Gloves
- Nelathon Catheter
- Eye Pads
- Irrigating Syringe
- Non-Woven Swab
- Cotton Filled Gauze

MC
McBride
FAMILY
The One You Trust!

- Bed Pan
- First Aid Kit
- Hot Water Bag
- Wadding Sheet
- Wooden Tongue Depressors
- Medical Plaster
- Operating Sponge
- Umbilical Cord Clamp
- Water Bottle Fountain Syringe
- Urine Bag
- Under Pads

Exclusively Distributed by:
Medical Center Trading Corp.
Pioneer St., Cor. Shaw Blvd., Pasig City
Tels. 631-1715; 631-9355; 637-9504
Fax (0632) 631-7869 E-mail Address: medcen@info.com.ph

MANILA 711-8374
PASIG 631-1715
CEBU (032) 254-2367
DAVAO (082) 222-4404
PAMPANGA (045) 961-7892
ILOILO (033) 320-1413
LIPA (043) 757-2051
PANGASINAN (075) 568-7390
CAGAYAN DE ORO (088) 856-8199

Available at mercury drug Stores Nationwide

3-YEAR UP STUDY

Visayas kids face risks of lead poisoning

By Hazel P. Villa
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—CHILDREN AGED 5 YEARS OLD and below in the Visayas may be facing risks of lead poisoning, a three-year health study indicated.

The study, conducted by Dr. Orville Solon of the University of the Philippines' School of Economics in Diliman, Quezon City, found 1,294 children from 11 Visayan provinces with lead levels in their bloodstream way beyond the hazard limit.

The children had lead in the blood of up to 20 micrograms per deciliter, about twice the 10 μg/dL allowable limit, the study showed.

The number represented 30 percent of 4,312 children whose blood was tested for the study. The children were from Capiz, Iloilo, Negros Occidental, Bohol, Cebu, Negros Oriental, Siquijor, Camiguin, Biliran, Leyte and Eastern Samar.

Solon, a health economist, presented his study, titled "Results from the Quality Improvement Demonstration Study (QIDS): An Unanticipated Finding of Lead Exposure in Children 5 and Younger" on the second day of the 2nd National Conference on Population, Health and Environment held March 15-17 at the Waterfront Hotel here.

The conference was convened by the Philippine Legislators' Committee on Population and the Development Foundation, Inc.

Study results showed that more than 10 percent of children tested in Bohol, Negros Oriental, Biliran and Leyte had lead levels in the blood greater than 20 μg/dL.

A smaller percentage of those from other provinces had 10-20 μg/dL.

Solon found that seven of the 16 identified potential exposure sources for lead had a range of lead concentration near or beyond the hazard limits as determined by applicable US regulatory agencies.

The children found with lead in the blood were greatly exposed to paint chips, dust wipes, canned tuna, candy wrappers, gasoline, motor oil and fishing weights.

The mean lead found in the blood of the 4,312 tested children was 9.40 μg/dL, near the cut-off of 10 μg/dL as stipulated by the Center for Disease Control.

Elizabeth Butrick, project manager of the QIDS, said any amount of lead in the blood is dangerous.

IN THE KNOW

High lead content means:

- With 10 μg/dL in blood
  Slight loss in IQ
  Hearing and growth problems
- With 20 ug/dL in blood
  Moderate loss in IQ
  Hyperactivity
  Poor attention span
  Difficulty in learning
  Language and speech problems
  Slower reflexes

The range of concentration of lead from exposure to gasoline as found in the bodies of the children was 4.6 to 24.6 parts per million (ppm). The hazard limit is 13 ppm.

Candy wrappers and gasoline are not supposed to have any lead in them, but Solon's study found that children exposed to such had lead in their blood.

About 530 to 120,000 ppm of lead from paint chips were also found in the children's blood. The hazard limit is 5,000 ppm.

Lead from motor oil and fishing weights were also found. These had no registered hazard limits because these were not regulated.

Solon said lead poisoning was a serious problem because the potential consequences of high lead levels in children would be acute neural toxicity, cognitive and behavioral impairment and developmental delays, with anemic children more at risk because they absorb more lead.

The study said the IQ (intelligence quotient) levels of children with "elevated lead levels" in their blood averaged 90.

"This IQ ... is problematic," said Solon, who said QIDS spent $10 per blood test (or about P500 at the time the study was conducted in 2002-05).

Solon said the Department of Energy and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources were already informed of their findings last year.

"Their response was that they called on their regional units to talk to the parents of the children but they (the two departments) have not developed very specific actions to face the lead problem," said Solon in an interview after his presentation.

ROUNDUP

Exec charged with estafa

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—An officer of a pre-need firm here is facing an estafa case for allegedly defrauding a fishing tycoon. The case was filed Feb. 24 upon the recommendation of lawyer Boye Mama, head of the National Bureau of Investigation in South Cotabato-Sarangani-General Santos. The suspect, Aldrin Robleza, a senior division manager of Grayline Plans Inc., was arrested by NBI agents in an entrapment operation, but was freed after posting a P40,000 bail. In her complaint, Aurea Damalerio of Damalerio Fishing Corp. said she paid more than P11,000 million to Robleza from 2004 to 2006 after the suspect pledged to help facilitate the approval of her $20-million loan with the Singapore-based Asia Pacific Venture Capital Ltd.

Aquiles Z. Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Cha-cha debate

ROXAS CITY—The provincial government hold a "grand debate" on Charter change before the end of March. Gov. Vicente Bermejo on Tuesday said a group headed by provincial legal officer Napoleon Oducado was formed to design and facilitate the holding of the debate to be covered live by all radio and television stations here. The proposition, according to provincial administrator Dante Bermejo, is "resolve to adopt the proposed Charter change drafted by the Constitutional Commission." The debate, to be conducted in Hiligaynon, is meant to inform Capiceños of the proposed Charter amendments.

Felipe V. Celino, PDI Visayas Bureau

Prostitution ring bared

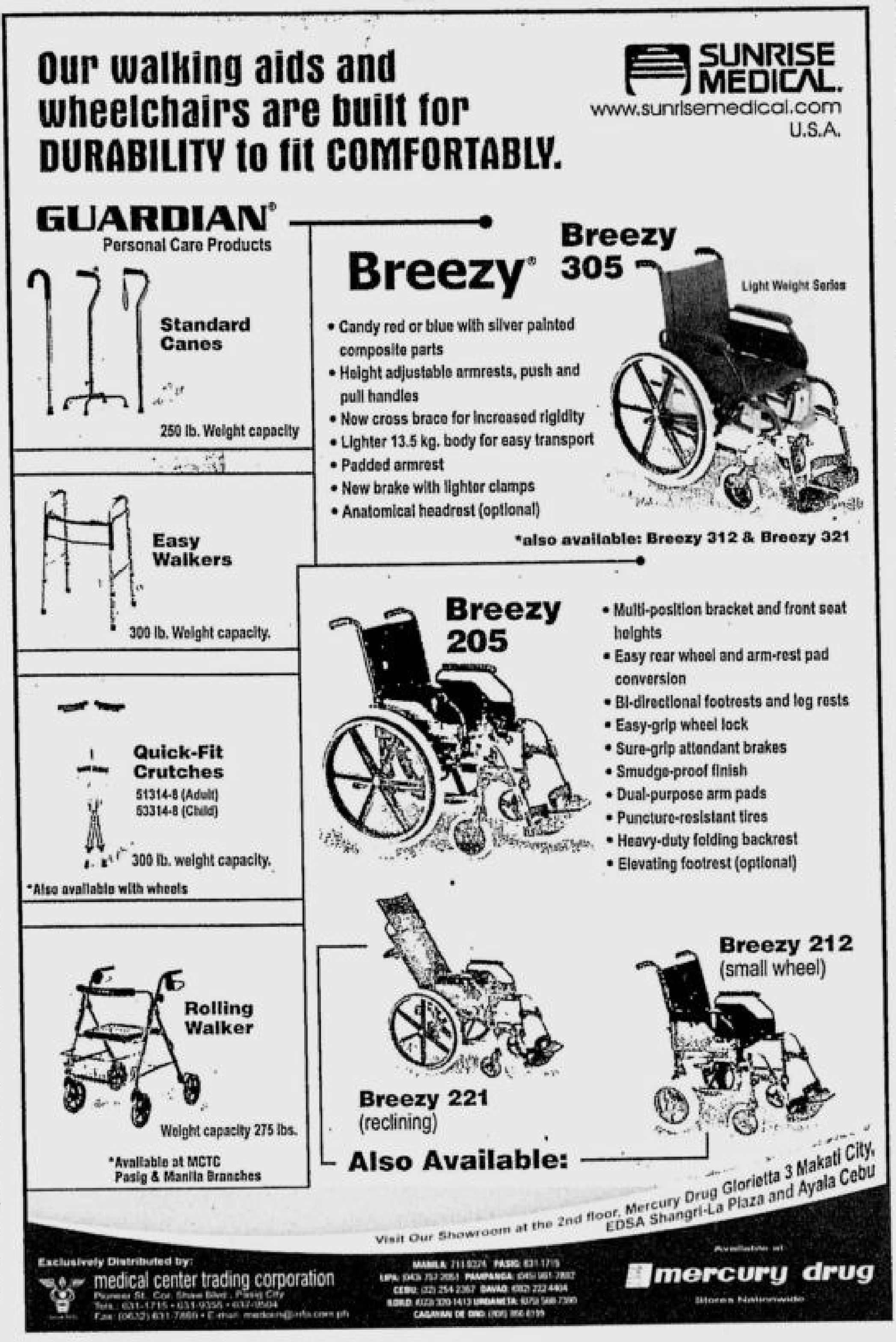
DUMAGUETE CITY—Mayor Agustin Perdices on Tuesday revealed the existence of an underground prostitution and possibly pedophile ring in Negros Oriental. During the first meeting of the Anti-Indecency Board at City Hall, Perdices pointed to some tricycle drivers who hang out late at night in front of Why Not Restaurant beside the Perdices-owned Mamia's restaurant. Perdices said that while no actual crime had been committed along the boulevard, the place was where the suspected pimps meet with their clients. If a price has been agreed, the customers are brought outside of the city to meet the women or child prostitutes.

Alex Pal, PDI Visayas Bureau

3 cops acquitted

LEGAZPI CITY—Three city policemen, who had been charged with the murder of a hostage-taker at Pacific Mall here 19 months ago, were acquitted by Regional Trial Court Branch 5 Judge Pedro Soriao. SPO2 Darwin Aragon, PO1 Eddie Casili and PO1 Felino Hate were cleared after the judge noted that they had dutifully responded to a request for assistance by the mall management when the hostage-taking occurred and that they had acted in self-defense. The murder complaint was filed by Gloria Bobis, mother of hostage-taker Roderick Bobis of Barangay Bigaa, who met with his estranged wife Raquel at the mall on Aug. 11, 2003 for a possible reconciliation. The meeting turned sour when Roderick, a security guard, poked a gun at Raquel.

Edgar Alejo, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau



Our walking aids and wheelchairs are built for DURABILITY to fit COMFORTABLY.

SUNRISE MEDICAL.
www.sunrisemedical.com
U.S.A.

GUARDIAN®
Personal Care Products

Standard Canes
250 lb. Weight capacity

Easy Walkers
300 lb. Weight capacity.

Quick-Fit Crutches
51314-8 (Adult)
53314-8 (Child)
300 lb. weight capacity.
*Also available with wheels

Rolling Walker
Weight capacity 275 lbs.
*Available at MCTC Pasig & Manila Branches

Breezy®
Breezy 305
Light Weight Series

- Candy red or blue with silver painted composite parts
- Height adjustable armrests, push and pull handles
- New cross brace for increased rigidity
- Lighter 13.5 kg. body for easy transport
- Padded armrest
- New brake with lighter clamps
- Anatomical headrest (optional)

*also available: Breezy 312 & Breezy 321

Breezy 205

- Multi-position bracket and front seat heights
- Easy rear wheel and arm-rest pad conversion
- Bi-directional footrests and leg rests
- Easy-grip wheel lock
- Sure-grip attendant brakes
- Smudge-proof finish
- Dual-purpose arm pads
- Puncture-resistant tires
- Heavy-duty folding backrest
- Elevating footrest (optional)

Breezy 212
(small wheel)

Breezy 221
(reclining)

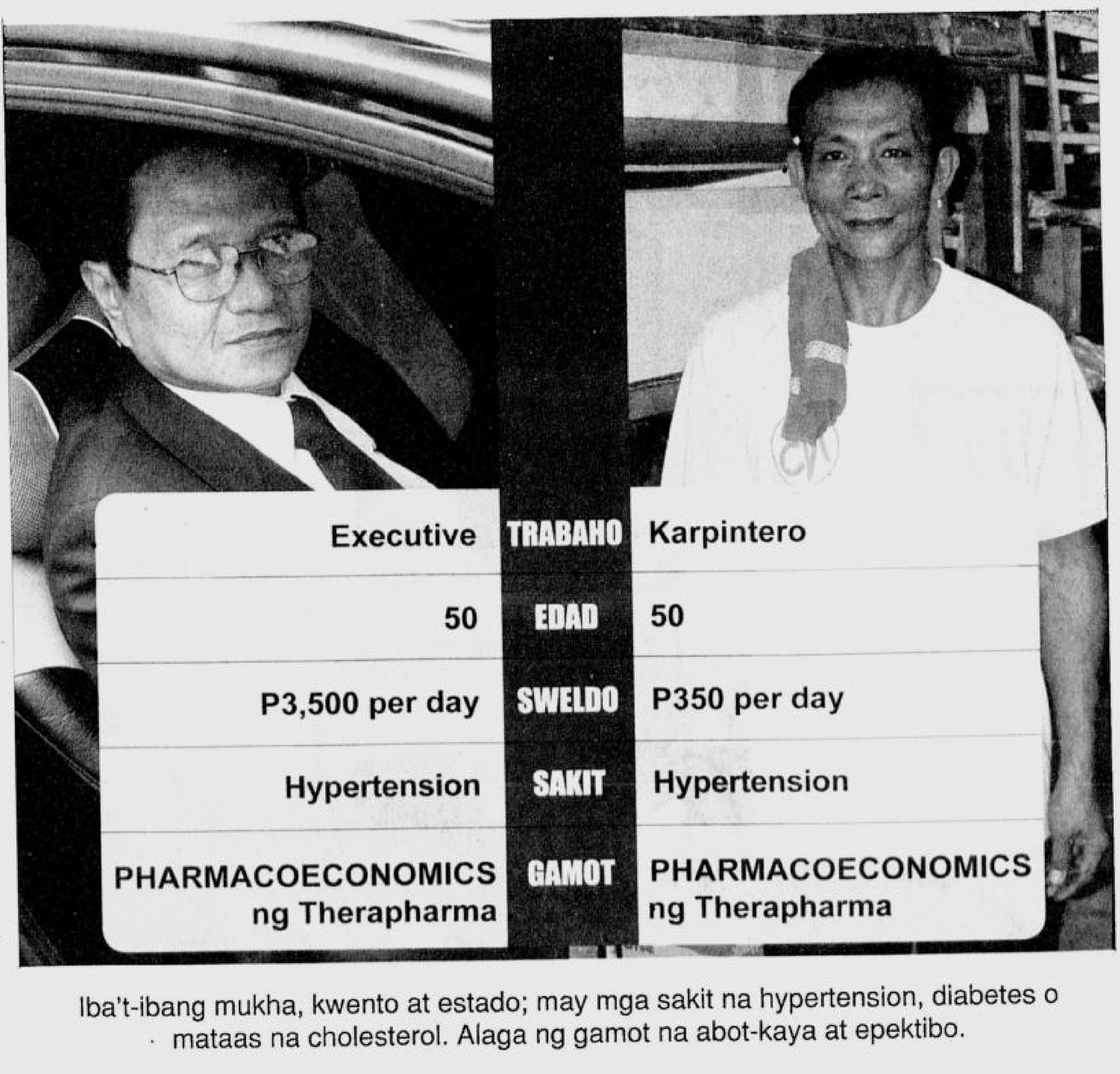
Also Available:

Visit Our Showroom at the 2nd floor, Mercury Drug Glorietta 3 Makati City, EDSA Shangri-La Plaza and Ayala Cebu

Exclusively Distributed by:
medical center trading corporation

Available at
mercury drug
Stores Nationwide

Bulsa ko, buhay ko...
PAREHONG PANALO!



Executive	TRABAHO	Karpintero
50	EDAD	50
P3,500 per day	SWELDO	P350 per day
Hypertension	SAKIT	Hypertension
PHARMACOECONOMICS ng Therapharma	GAMOT	PHARMACOECONOMICS ng Therapharma

Iba't-ibang mukha, kwento at estado; may mga sakit na hypertension, diabetes o mataas na cholesterol. Alaga ng gamot na abot-kaya at epektibo.

PHARMACOECONOMICS
Get well wisely.

therapharma A division of UNILAB

Para sa karagdagang impormasyon, kumunsulta sa doktor o tumawag sa hotline:
1-800-10-6-HEALTH (432584) • Direct Line: 637-4890

People's Choice

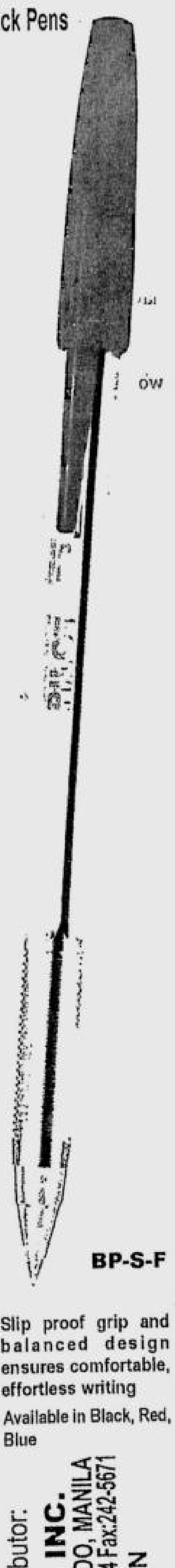
SUPERBRAND HALL OF FAME

voted by readers SUPER BRAND Reader's Digest Philippines

SUPER BRAND GOLD 2005
SUPER BRAND PLATINUM 2004
SUPER BRAND GOLD 2003
SUPER BRAND GOLD 2002
SUPER BRAND GOLD 2001
SUPER BRAND GOLD 2000
SUPER BRAND GOLD 1999

PILOT

Refillable Ball Point Stick Pens



BP-S-F

Slip proof grip and balanced design ensures comfortable, effortless writing

Available in Black, Red, Blue

Philippine Exclusive Distributor:
COSMOS BAZAR, INC.
571 Q. PAREDES ST., BINONDO, MANILA
P.O. BOX 1601 Tels.: 243-6912 to 14 Fax:242-5671
PILOT CORPORATION
Tokyo Japan

Is entertaining the public illegal? Joker asks cops

From page A1

help but ask this question even as they decried the arrest and detention of former Social Welfare Secretary Corazon "Dinky" Soliman on Friday.

Soliman was arrested and hauled off to Manila police headquarters together with Vicente Romano, lead convenor of the anti-Arroyo Black and White Movement (BWM), for alleged illegal assembly. They were released after five hours.

"You mean I can't wear anything, ask my friends to join me, talk and denounce the government? I don't think you're violating any law [if you do these things]," Senator Arroyo said in an interview.

Soliman and some 50 BWM members were mostly clad in black T-shirts embossed with the message "Patalsikin na. NOW NA! (Out now!)"

As far as he knew, Arroyo, a human rights lawyer during martial law, said Soliman had neither obstructed traffic nor inconvenienced the public when she and other BWM members tried to cross Roxas Boulevard toward Baywalk.

"Where's the unlawful act of Dinky? If at all, she only entertained the public," the senator said.

One could be charged with violating Batas Pambansa Bilang 880, or the Public Assembly Act, if he or she causes traffic obstruction and public inconvenience during a public gathering, according to Arroyo.

Biazon held the same view. "What's the charge? I can't accept the charge that they were out there to conduct a rally without a permit. How many people should there be before an activity can be considered a rally?" he said.

"Did they have banners or flags? Were they obstructing traffic? Were they inconveniencing the public? Were they creating lawless violence? I don't think so," Biazon added in an interview.

Biazon demanded that the arresting officers state clearly the law that they used to haul Soliman and her companions off to the Western Police District for questioning on Friday night.

Police had argued that the group, vocal critics of the Arroyo administration known for holding protest rallies, had engaged in a political activity and violated the Illegal Assembly Act.

Gray area

The wearing of antigovernment T-shirts per se by an individual or a group of people is not illegal, police Director Vidal Querol clarified yesterday.

But the wearing of such shirts "with the intention to conduct a lightning strike" in a public area could be illegal, according to PNP spokesperson Senior Supt. Samuel Pagdilao.

And between these two actions, there was a "gray area," both officers acknowledged.

There are no hard and fast rules, and what is illegal is left to the judgment of the ground commander, they said.

Biazon said the arrest and detention of Soliman and Romano only added to the woes of the administration as a result of its issuance of Presidential Proclamation No. 1017.

"Although PP 1017 had been lifted, its effect of sending a chill down the spine of freedom-loving Filipino citizens continues to linger," he said.

President Macapagal-Arroyo issued PP 1017 and placed the country under a state of emergency on Feb. 24 after the military uncovered a coup plot. It was lifted a week later.

"Suddenly, this government wants you to get a permit for every little act. This can only happen in North Korea," Arroyo said.

RP most endangered democracy in Asia

From page A1

events on TV following the issuance of Presidential Proclamation No. 1017 have been left with the abiding image of Philippine democracy in total disarray and of a country taken over by a cabal of disgruntled and restive generals and colonels.

For weeks, there was no getting away from the overbearing presence of soldiers on national TV screens and newspaper front pages.

The ubiquitous presence of generals and colonels on the radar screen was so overpowering that it left little doubt that the military and police were in fact in charge, and the civilian government reduced to a mere figurehead.

While the constitutional Commander in Chief, Ms Arroyo, tried to assert her authority, she virtually disappeared from public view.

Invisible

National TV was overcrowded with men in fatigues, strutting on center stage, pushing civilian leaders to the sidelines and reducing civil authority to an invisible government.

After Feb. 24, the civil institutions, especially Congress, which normally had been very combative and aggressive in trying to push Ms Arroyo out of power, lost their pugnacious voices and became invisible, as the soldiers empowered by emergency measures contemptuously ignored the existence of senators.

Whom did we see on center stage while the President, the alleged Commander in Chief, was pushed to the background?

They were people in combat fatigues like Brig. Gen. Danilo Lim of the Scout Rangers; Col. Ariel Querubin of the Marines; Gen. Generoso Senga, the AFP chief of staff, and Lt. Gen. Hermogenes Esperon, the Army chief.

Arrogance

They were joined by Philippine National Police Director General Arturo Lumibao and the AFP spokesperson, Col. Tristan Kison, who rose from obscurity with the statement warning the "enemies of the state" against making the military the target of "destabilization," because "we are one of the strong pillars holding the nation."

"If we break, the nation will collapse," Kison had said.

Nothing has matched the arrogance of Kison since the fugitive Col. Gregorio Honasan launched coups in the second half of the 1980s.

Control of AFP in doubt

It was Senga, not the constitutional Commander in Chief, who laid down the rule that, as mandated by the Constitution, "we [the military] must remain an apolitical force" and that "we are not to be regarded as a potential political force to be used by politicians in the furtherance of their vested interests."

Like Ms Arroyo, Senga, whose loyalty to the Commander in Chief was in doubt on Feb. 24 when the coup was aborted, does not appear to be in control of the AFP.

On Feb. 26, when Querubin and other Marines protested the relief of their commander, his disclosure that he and his men had planned to join a rally in Makati City on Feb. 24 represented an extraconstitutional move to seize power and replace the government with a "transition council."

The rally was aimed at sparking a wide civilian insurrection to topple Ms Arroyo.

Following the proclamation of the state of emergency, it was Lomibao to whom the President surrendered the power to crack down on the media and to lay down the "guidelines" for the closure of newspapers and TV networks, and the arrest of those implicated in a conspiracy of the Left, "adventurist" officers and mainstream opposition politicians to overthrow the administration.

Erosion of civilian authority

Thus, the erosion of civilian authority came from two sources inside the military—the renegade officers who were linked to the coup plot and the military officers in charge of the mopping-up operations against those who allegedly conspired to oust Ms Arroyo.

While the emergency proclamation enabled the government to abort the coup attempt, it created a more serious problem, which threatens its survival and that of constitutional democracy.

It gave the military a franchise to implement repressive security measures and to reassert messianic interventionism that had been lurking just underneath the surface since 1986.

The state of emergency allowed the soldiers, on whom the civilian government is more dependent than ever, to enforce repressive measures on civil society and to hold the government hostage.

The weeks following the aborted coup have not only been a field day for the soldiers to be in the limelight.

The period also gave the soldiers a moment to bask in the glory of power usurped from civilian authority, such that Sen. Rodolfo Biazon, a former AFP chief of staff, could not quite keep himself in the background.

He had crossed over to the realm of military intervention for a piece of the action by trying to calm down the Marines in the Fort Bonifacio standoff, not to save the Arroyo administration but, according to him, to avert soldiers from shooting one another.

Indeed, the President crushed the coup, with the aid of a segment of the military. But she now faces the more dangerous conspiracy of soldiers whose appetite for grabbing power has been revived by a fresh injection of its power of life and death over disemboweled civilian political institutions and civil society.

Queer eye for straight Congress

From page A1

The country's LGBT—whom Remoto estimated to number about 8 million—were not about to miss another chance to bring the concerns of a "marginalized sector" into the halls of Congress.

In the absence of current figures and citing a study by sociologist Margaret Mead in the 1950s that estimated gay people to make up 10 percent of a country's population, Remoto said 10 percent of the Philippine population of 82.7 million was about 8 million LGBT.

Even if only half of the estimated LGBT population would vote, then its party-list group would have a potential voter base of 4.35 million. Remoto said Ang Ladlad was aiming for at least 850,000 votes in the 2007 elections.

Long battle

"It's like a long battle. We have been preparing since 2003 ... It will be good if the people will give us a chance," he said. "The numbers are there, but you have to reach them. That's why we're asking around in the provinces."

Ang Ladlad had planned to launch its party-list bid in 2004. But the deadline to register was changed from January 2004 to October 2003 and the group failed to sign up the party on time.

This time though, Remoto's group is doing its homework early. They've already decided on a color motif—hot pink. They're eyeing beauty parlors as possible headquarters in every region or province.

Ang Ladlad is also checking out the demographics (information about the number and characteristics) of LGBT people, deploying members to northern Luzon, southern and central Mindanao.

Politicians, hairdressers

Politicians, including a senatorial candidate and local candidates in Luzon and Mindanao, have agreed to carry Ang Ladlad in their campaign programs and materials, Remoto said.

Hairdressers, fashion designers, directors and show biz personalities, artists, hotel owners, bakery proprietors, and even college students have already pledged support for the group's electoral bid.

Major hairdressing associations such as FilHair (Filipino Hairdressers Cooperative Association of the Philippines), Hacap (Hairdressers Cooperatives Association of the Philippines) and Hair Asia have signified their willingness to participate in the campaign.

Each organization has between 20,000 and 30,000 members who own beauty parlors all over the country.

"Imagine how many parlors are out there ... We have the country surrounded," Remoto noted.

Antidiscrimination

Ang Ladlad will be taking up serious LGBT issues, foremost of which is discrimination.

Remoto said many LGBT, especially gays, were either not hired or not promoted because of their gender. In banks, for example, gays are often turned down despite good grades and passing exams.

"They have this notion that gays would just give money to their boyfriends, which is a stereotype," he said.

He cited an exclusive boys' school in Manila where its authorities would require parents or guardians of student applicants to sign a "pink slip" assuring the school that their boys did not exhibit effeminate tendencies.

In the provinces, the discrimination was harsher, with gays limited to beauty parlors, often receiving verbal and physical abuse from classmates, neighbors and even policemen who pick them up for vagrancy.

Surprisingly, Ang Ladlad did not include same-sex marriage in its platform, a touchy issue which is opposed by the Catholic Church, conservative groups like Opus Dei, and even Muslims who account for 5.1 percent (based on the 2000 census) of the population.

"Same-sex marriage is a very middle-class concern. We want to make our advocacy—such as antidiscrimination—a human rights issue," Remoto said.

Gay pride

Ang Ladlad will also push for microfinancing and livelihood opportunities for LGBT, as well as drop-in centers for "golden gays" and young LGBT who have been driven from home by their families.

"Not all gay men want to become hairdressers, and not all lesbians want to become bus conductors or security guards," Remoto said.

The Philippines is a leading advocate of LGBT issues in Asia. LGBT groups have also actively pushed for the Anti-Discrimination Bill in Congress. Pride parades all over the world are traditionally held in June. In the Philippines, pride parades started in 1994, but in 2003, they were moved to December to coincide with Human Rights Day which is observed on Dec. 10.

Remoto said: "We are serious about this, but we are not traditional politicians who will cheat for a seat in government. *Kung* lose, *eh di* lose, try *na lang ulit sa* 2010. *Pero kung* win, *eh di* winner (If we lose, we lose. We'll try again in 2010. But if we win, we're winners)."

BEST BUY

Philips Flat TV with Ambilight

Enjoy the ultimate viewing experience as Ambilight and Pixel Plus 2 elevate picture quality to a new level. Unprecedented viewing comfort, the latest Plasma Display Technology, and a stunning design to enhance your interior.

Bag our best deals for big savings and easy payment plans.

Turn up your experience with an exciting range of Philips Home Entertainment systems.

Available only from March 1 - April 15, 2006

0% INTEREST 12 months

BEFORE: P349,980.00
NOW: P329,980.00
42PF9830/69
FREE HTS3300 Home Theatre System

NOW: P299,980.00
50PF7320/98
FREE HTS3300 Home Theatre System

BEFORE: P249,980.00
NOW: P229,980.00
42PF9966/98
FREE HTS3300 Home Theatre System

NOW: P28,990.00
HTS5510C
FREE AQ4130 Radio Cassette Recorder

NOW: P25,980.00
29PT3223
73.66cm (29") RFTV, MTS Stereo
FREE TV Stand

NOW: P17,888.00
25PT3323
63.5cm (25") RFTV, MTS Stereo
FREE TV Stand

BEFORE: P10,990.00
NOW: P8,990.00
FW-D17
DVD/MP3 Player 1200 PMPO DTS Dolby Digital Surround Karaoke, Dynamic Bass Boost
FREE DVD Software

BEFORE: P5,990.00
NOW: P5,690.00
DVP5500S
FREE

BEFORE: P5,190.00
NOW: P4,790.00
AZ5130
FREE CD Software

Participating Banks: Banco de Oro Standard Chartered Bankard BPI MetroBank SB Cards Equitable Citibank HSBC

Catch these deals only at: Abenson Glorietta 1 Abenson Waltermart Makati Anson's Landmark Anson's Pasay Road Automatic Center Greenbelt 1 Automatic Center G4 Avant Greenbelt 4 SM Appliance Makati SM Appliance Rockwell Western Pasay Road

PHILIPS
sense and simplicity

www.philips.com

Wave of protests marks third anniversary of Iraq invasion

From page A1

pers' demand for the early withdrawal of its small peacekeeping contingent—a decision strongly criticized by Washington and other allies, but applauded at home.

A second Filipino worker abducted by Iraqi militants was freed in June last year after almost eight months in captivity.

The Iraq Solidarity Campaign also opposed the presence of US troops in the southern region of Mindanao, where they have been providing training and noncombat assistance to Filipino troops. The group criticized President Macapagal-Arroyo for allowing the Americans to intervene in domestic problems.

The primary target of US military assistance in the south is the Abu Sayyaf, a small but brutal al-Qaida-linked group on Washington's list of terrorist groups. The Abu Sayyaf has been blamed for deadly bomb attacks, acts of banditry and kidnappings for ransom, including of Americans.

2nd day of demos

In Tokyo, about 800 demonstrators took to the streets for the second day, after some 2,000 protested Saturday.

"The Iraq war was President Bush's big mistake and the whole world is against him," said Ayako Nishimura, 66, who is a city council member from the Tokyo suburb of Sagamihara and organized Sunday's protest. "Iraq must decide its own affairs."

In Malaysia's largest city, Kuala Lumpur, about 600 people protested peacefully on Sunday—unlike a gathering last year in which police used a water cannon to disperse demonstrators.

About 150 policemen stood by as protesters from rights groups and opposition parties chanted, "Stop the War," "No Blood for Oil" and "America Get Out of Iraq."

In the Asia-Pacific region, a variety of factors appeared to distract people from issue. In the southern Australian city of Melbourne, which saw some of Australia's biggest antiwar protests three years ago, attention has been diverted by the Commonwealth Games, while in Thailand thousands of people have been embroiled in protests against embattled Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra.

In South Korea, it was a baseball match.

At least 1,000 activists rallied in Seoul on Sunday to condemn the US-led invasion of Iraq and to urge the government to bring their troops home.

"Withdraw the Zaytun unit," the activists shouted, referring to the code name of the South Korean troops stationed in northern Iraq. South Korea has the third-largest contingent of foreign troops in Iraq after the United States and Britain.

The antiwar demonstration was a stark contrast to a crowd of some 10,000 baseball fans who turned out in a street rally a few blocks away to cheer and watch their national team on an outdoor screen as it played archrival Japan in a semifinal match of the inaugural World Baseball Classic in San Diego.

Rumsfeld defense

US Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld answered critics of the war in a guest column in Sunday's Washington Post newspaper, asserting that if Americans were to turn away from Iraq now, it would be "the modern equivalent of handing postwar Germany back to the Nazis."

Protesters in Chicago marched down Michigan Avenue to a Saturday night rally at Daley Plaza downtown. Police estimated that more than 7,000 people took part.

"I'm against this war. I'm against the torture," said protester Martha Conrad, 54, of Chicago. "We're doing this for the people of Iraq."

In Pakistan, hundreds of people held antiwar rallies in several cities on Saturday, chanting slogans such as "Down with America!"

In London, police said a march from Parliament to a rally in Trafalgar Square on Saturday drew about 15,000 people, far fewer than the 100,000 that organizers had expected.

The numbers joining war protests across Europe were dwarfed by the half million people who demonstrated in France against proposed labor law reforms, and about 80,000 nationalists who rallied in Belgrade to mourn accused war criminal and former Balkan strongman Slobodan Milosevic, who died a week ago in his cell at a UN war crimes court in the Netherlands.

Speakers in London demanded coalition forces be withdrawn from Iraq, warning that the fighting could spread to neighboring Iran because of the international standoff over Tehran's nuclear program. *AP*

PCSO LOTTO

EZ2		SUERTRES		
8	12	4	2	4

(In exact order)

6/49 SUPERLOTTO

20 29 38 40 42 46

₱45,562,957.20

ONLY THE LATEST LOTTO RESULTS ON YOUR CELFONE

Text LOTTO to 299

Open to all SMART subscribers. Only P2.50 per message.

Hampton Gardens CONDOMINIUMS

Affordable stylish condo living very near the Ortigas Business Center.

Actual photo of completed Phase 1

Many choices to suit your lifestyle needs and budget

Studio • 2 Bedroom • 3 Bedroom units for as low as Php 5,266 a month*

*Prices subject to change without prior notice

For inquiries, call: 634-6754

Visit our model units.
Website: www.drrchomes.com

Brokers are welcome for accreditation.
Email: sales@drrchomes.com

A project of the CLAIRMONT GROUP
Developer: Dynamic Realty & Resources Corp.

Suite 2203-B, PSE-Center, East Tower, Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City

PANAFLEX SIGNAGES IN 5 HOURS OR LESS!

P520 /sq. ft. + VAT (SINGLE FACE) - B.I. Angle Bar Framing w/ G.I. Sheet sidings, Imported Sticker & Complete Lighting Fixture

P740 /sq. ft. + VAT (DOUBLE FACE) - B.I. Angle Bar Framing w/ G.I. Sheet sidings, Imported Sticker & Complete Lighting Fixture

NEGOTIABLE PRICE FOR VOLUME ORDERS

Includes: Approved Concept Design & Installation within Metro Manila only.

OTHER SERVICES OFFERED:

- BILLBOARD
- PHOTOGRAPHIC BILLBOARD
- DROP BANNER
- STANDEE DISPLAY
- PANAFLEX
- NEON SIGN
- PLASTIC SIGN
- DURATRANS
- WINDOW DISPLAY
- EXHIBIT DISPLAY
- RACK AND MODULE DISPLAY
- SHOWROOM DISPLAY
- PHOTOGRAPHY
- MASCOT FABRICATION
- SILKSCREEN PROCESS
- STREAMERS
- BANNERS
- STICKERS
- BUNTING
- OFFSET PRINTING
- BROCHURE
- FLYER
- LABEL
- CATALOGUE
- POSTER

COMPACT GRAPHICS
Advertising Design Services Inc.

For Inquiries pls. call: Mr. Louie Sison
Tel. nos.: 400-0706 • 400-0696

the home depot ortigas • alabang

ortigas home depot

westgate alabang home depot

DOUBLE DISCOUNT SUMMER SALE

MARCH 1-31, 2006

9AM TO 8PM

VARIOUS ITEM DISCOUNT ON SELECTED PRODUCTS!
ADDITIONAL DISCOUNT ON TOTAL SINGLE TRANSACTION

ABC TILE ADHESIVE TILE GROUT
American Standard
APO Vinyl Quartz Tiles
alpha
kronoflooring LAMPERTSWALDE HIGH QUALITY FLOORING MADE IN GERMANY
KK TOOLS
National WIRING DEVICES
BESTANK
CHAMPS Shower In Style
Akari
Roca Everything in Bathroom.
DAVIES PAINT REINVENTED
BULLDOG
LEPANTO
CRESTON
FIREFLY We Light up your world!
LOTUS "Its not just about TOOLS"
HAFELE
HCG
AMERILOCK
JEA Steel Industries, Inc.
OMNI Electrical & Lighting
KENT VINYL TILES
welcoat
Teka
MARCO POLO
Hornitex Laminated Wood Flooring Made in Germany Best Seller
FUMACO
Yale
SCHLAGE ABLOY
MARIWASA
Dutch Boy
Tileron
NISON
PROFILES Mirrors Glass Accesories
CENTOR DOOR TRACK SYSTEM
Pioneer MIGHTY BOND INSTANT GLUE
LA BEKA Vinyl Tiles Sanitary Wares
Royal Teru SANITARY WARE
TOTO
PHILIPS
GE Lighting

E.D.S.A.
Ortigas Avenue
Meralco Ave. Flyover
Rodriguez Lanuza Ave.
C5
home
Julia Vargas Avenue

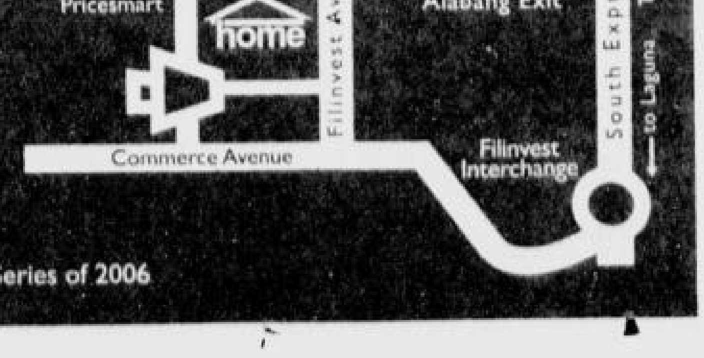
For inquiries, you may call us at :

Ortigas Home Depot
#1 Doña Julia Vargas Avenue, near corner Meralco Avenue, Brgy. Ugong, Pasig City at 636.0772 to 73.

Westgate Alabang Home Depot
Lot 103-117 Alabang-Zapote Road cor. Filinvest Ave., Westgate Alabang, Muntinlupa City at 771.1627 to 29

* See flyers for more details.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A2-113 and A2-114 Series of 2006



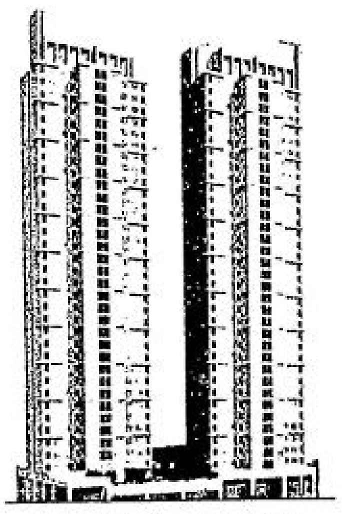
I've found my home at

CENTURY PROPERTIES

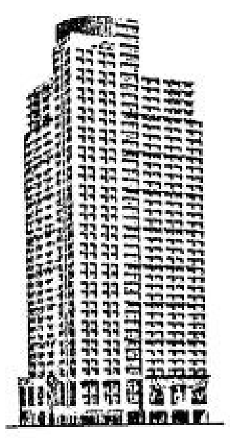
Since 1986, Century Properties has been developing, managing, and marketing the most exceptional residential, corporate, and leisure developments in the country. The Pacific Star Building, The Riviera Golf and Country Club, The Asian Hospital Medical Suites, and the award winning Essensa East Forbes in Fort Bonifacio are only a few of over sixty major projects in its very impressive portfolio.

Today, the company has quietly grown into one of the LARGEST privately owned full service real estate firms in the Philippines, with over ₱70 billion in total assets under management. They have won such accolades like the Global Excellence Award for Most Outstanding Philippine Real Estate Firm, The National Product Quality Excellence Award for Best Philippine Real Estate firm, and the Most Outstanding Housing Developer from the Philippine Business World Quality Awards.

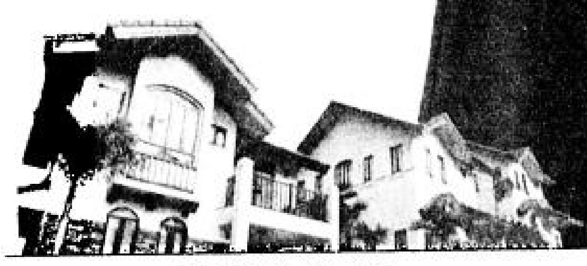
Century's Current Projects:



SOUTH OF MARKET



SOHO CENTRAL



CANYON RANCH

With a 20 year heritage of innovation, excellence, and superior service, Century continues to break new ground with such pioneering projects like the currently rising South of Market at the Fort, the country's FIRST fully-fitted, fully furnished residential hi-rise, Soho Central, the FIRST ever transportation oriented development, with its direct link to the MRT Train station, and Canyon Ranch, the nation's FIRST wi-fi residential community in the Philippines.

And while the people at Century Properties strive for more "FIRSTS", more visionary achievements, and more awards, it is their pursuit of the greatest award of all: the satisfaction of customers like you and me, that puts Century FIRST on my list.

I've chosen to make my home with Century. You should too.

Martin Nievera

First Fully Furnished Residential Condo
SOUTH OF MARKET

First Transportation-Oriented Development
SOHO CENTRAL

First Wi-Fi Residential Community
in the Philippines
CANYON RANCH

First Building completed at the Fort
Voted best residential building in the Philippines
ESSENSA EAST FORBES

CENTURY
PROPERTIES GROUP
818-9025 • 893-7050 • 0915-700-2000
www.century-properties.com

A plus METRO

Editor **Ester G. Dipasupil**

Text us your feedback: Inquirer met name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) **E-mail:** pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph

Man wounded in Umale shooting dies in hospital

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

THE ELECTRICIAN WHO WAS ALSO SHOT on Thursday when he rushed to help businessman Leonardo Umale passed away after fighting for his life for three days.

Ernesto Ganton died on Saturday night at The Medical City in Pasig City because of a gunshot wound in his belly. He had undergone surgery for his injury a day before.

Ganton was with Umale when four men armed with .45 caliber handguns shot the businessman four times in the head while they were about to enter the Pearl Plaza Building on Pearl Drive.

Ganton had rushed to Umale's side and was shot in the process.

"The Umale family feels sad. He was a very loyal employee who had worked for Mr. Umale for a very long time," the Umales' lawyer, Hans Santos, told the INQUIRER.

Ganton worked as an electrician in the Pearl Plaza Building which was owned by the businessman.

Santos said the Umale family had already expressed willingness to let Ganton's family stay with them.

Umale's ashes, placed inside an urn, were sealed inside a crypt yesterday afternoon at the Christ the King Church in Greenmeadows, Quezon City.

Asked if investigators had already uncovered any significant development in the case, Eastern Police District director Chief Supt. Charlemagne Alejandrino said: "*Wala pa* (None yet)."

The Umale family has offered a P10-million reward to anyone who could provide information on the four gunmen and the mastermind behind the killing.

WHAT'S INSIDE

■ **P75,000 worth of shabu seized in Pasay** /A26

■ **MMDA: More pedestrians killed last year** /A26

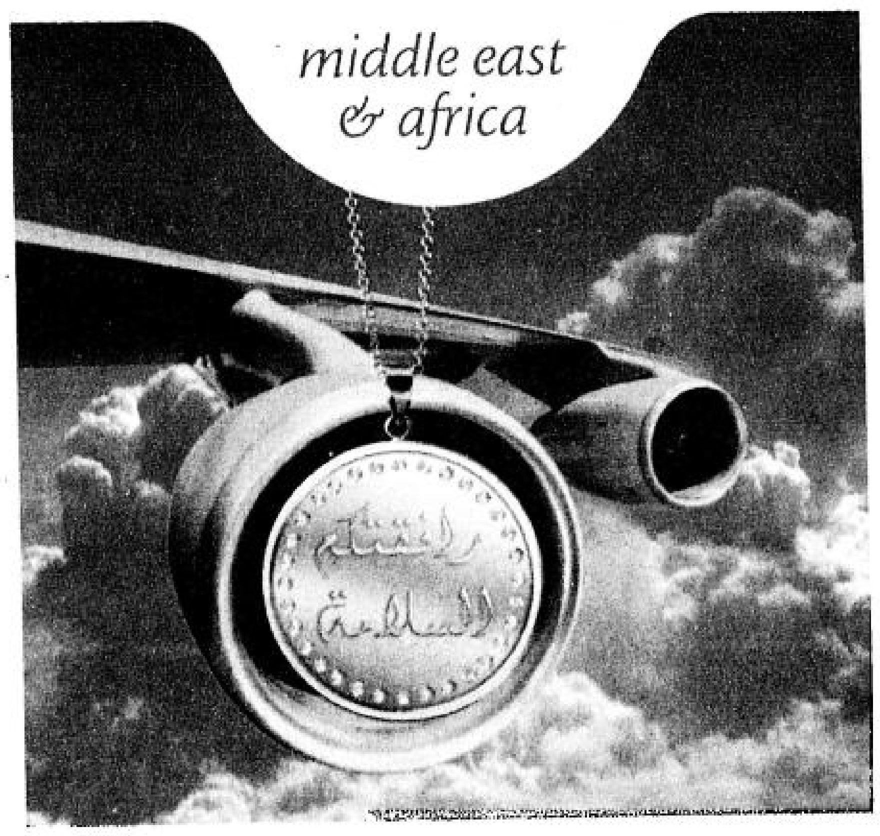
■ **Business groups laud 168 mall raid** /A26

10 FLIGHTS WEEKLY ON OUR STATE-OF-THE ART A330 AIRCRAFT
DAILY FROM MANILA, 3TIMES A WEEK FROM CEBU.

europe
1 EURO

Economy Class from **USD 800.00**
Business Class from **USD 1988.00**

ATHENS · BERLIN · FRANKFURT · ISTANBUL
LONDON (GATWICK & HEATHROW) · MADRID · MANCHESTER
MILAN · MOSCOW · MUNICH · PARIS · ROME · VIENNA · ZURICH



Economy Class from **USD 700.00**
Business Class from **USD 1550.00**

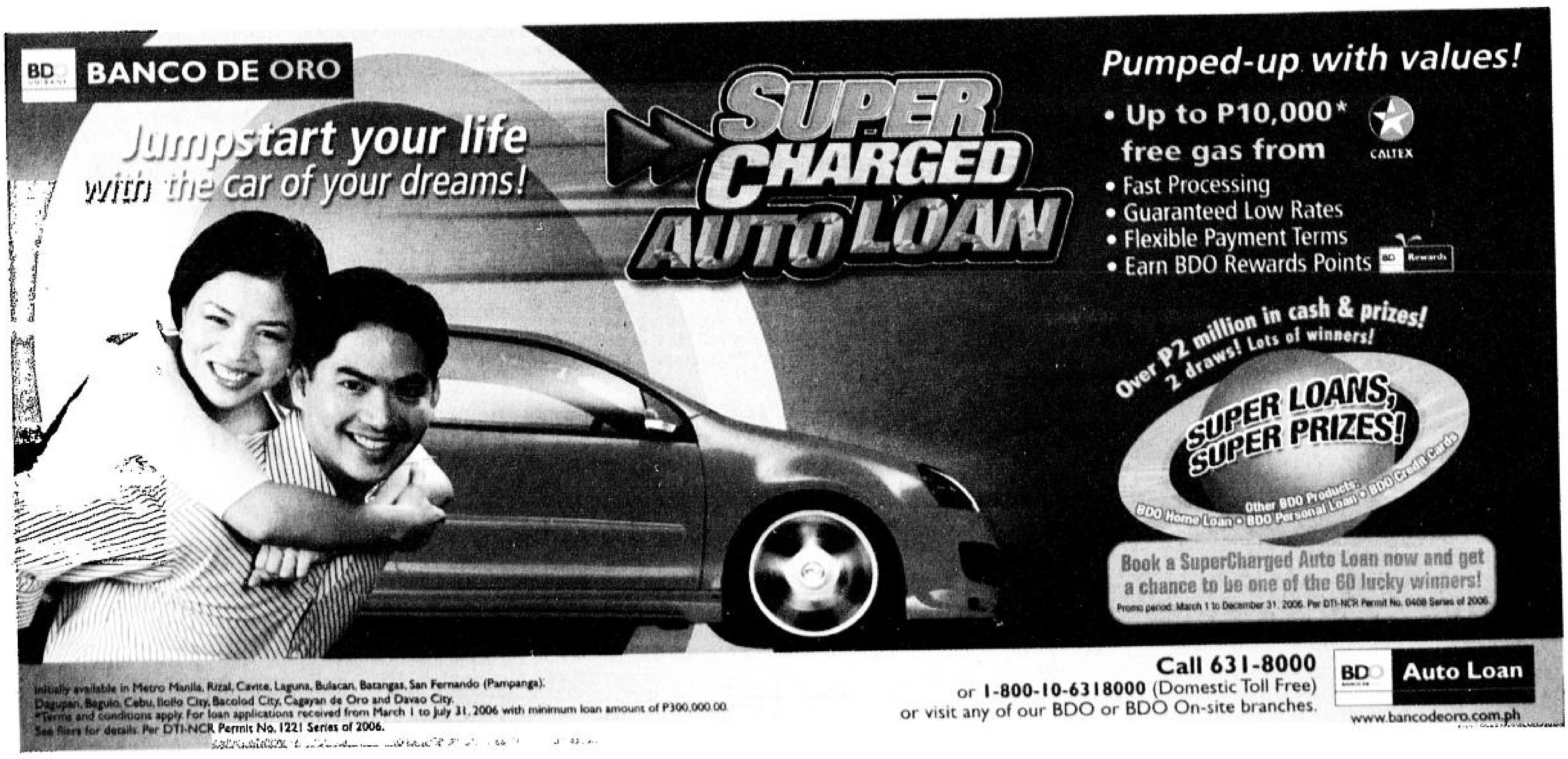
ABU DHABI · ALEXANDRIA · ALGIERS · AMMAN · BAHRAIN · BEIRUT
CAIRO · CAPETOWN · CASABLANCA · DAMASCUS · DAMMAM · DUBAI
JEDDAH · JOHANNESBURG · KHARTOUM · KUWAIT · LUXOR · MASHAD
MUSCAT · NAIROBI · RIYADH · SANAA · TEHRAN · TRIPOLI · TUNIS

skytrax 5 Star Airline

QATAR AIRWAYS القطرية

Taking you more personally

For further information, please contact your nearest Qatar Airways office: Manila (632) 812-1888/Cebu (032) 232-1000 or your local travel agent.
Rate applies to ticket sales from 01 March 2006 to 31 March 2006 for departures from 01 March 2006 to 15 April 2006. All fares subject to change without notice. Fare conditions apply.
To join Privilege Club, our Frequent Flyer programme, visit **www.qatarairways.com**


BANCO DE ORO

Pumped-up with values!

- Up to P10,000* free gas from CALTEX
- Fast Processing
- Guaranteed Low Rates
- Flexible Payment Terms
- Earn BDO Rewards Points

Over P2 million in cash & prizes! 2 draws! Lots of winners!

SUPER LOANS, SUPER PRIZES!

Other BDO Products: BDO Home Loan • BDO Personal Loan • BDO Credit Cards

Book a SuperCharged Auto Loan now and get a chance to be one of the 60 lucky winners!

Promo period: March 1 to December 31, 2006. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0408 Series of 2006.

Initially available in Metro Manila, Rizal, Cavite, Laguna, Bulacan, Batangas, San Fernando (Pampanga).
Dagupan, Baguio, Cebu, Iloilo City, Bacolod City, Cagayan de Oro and Davao City.
*Terms and conditions apply. For loan applications received from March 1 to July 31, 2006 with minimum loan amount of P300,000.00.
See fliers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1221 Series of 2006.

Call 631-8000
or 1-800-10-6318000 (Domestic Toll Free)
or visit any of our BDO or BDO On-site branches.

BDO Auto Loan
www.bancodeoro.com.ph

More pedestrians killed last year

By Tarra V. Quismundo

FOR THE THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR, MOST of the people killed in road accidents in the metropolis were pedestrians, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) said yesterday.

An accident analysis report of the agency's Road Safety Unit (RSU) showed that of the 355 fatalities in 2005, 180 were pedestrians who were killed while crossing the road, 116 others were drivers while 59 were passengers.

Most of the fatal accidents also happened at night, between 4 p.m. and 6 a.m.

In 2004, 142 or more than half of the 281 persons who died in road accidents were pedestrians. The same trend was observed from June 2002 to November 2003 with 233 out of 359 fatalities also pedestrians.

"The relatively high proportion of pedestrians killed... is still a cause for concern," the RSU said in its report this year.

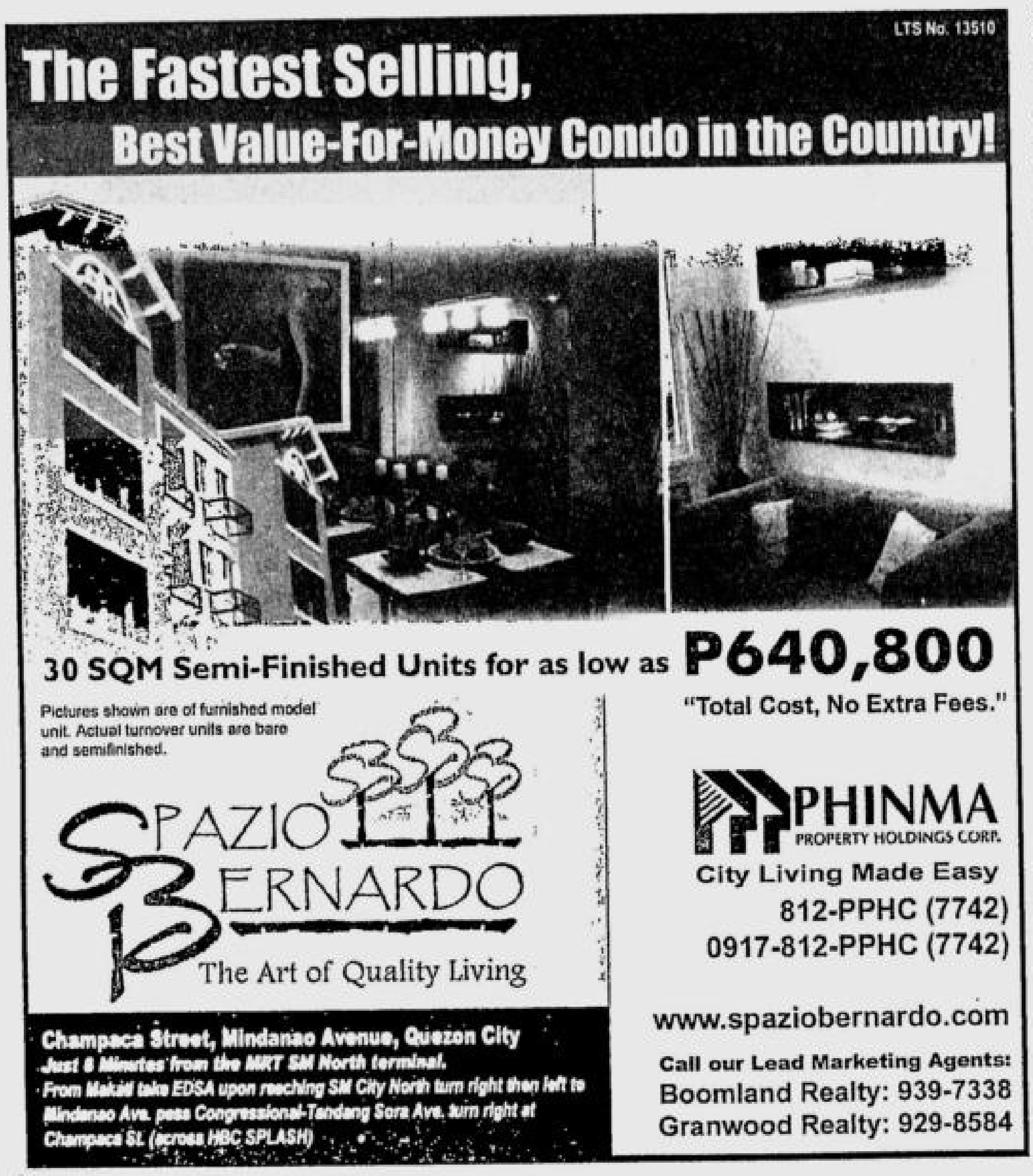
"There are still lots of commuters who cross the roads indiscriminately, even if they could see signs warning them against doing so ... There are even people who would cut through the steel fences we had put up on the sidewalks and center islands just to cross where it's risky. It's really surprising what they do," MMDA General Manager Robert Nacianceno said.

The MMDA said that this was why they had put up pink signs on the road with the warning: "*Huwag tumawid, nakamamatay*" (Crossing the road could kill you)."

"Maybe some people think the government just suddenly thought of putting up those signs without much thinking, so they think they don't mean anything, that they are not worth following. But we put up those signs after a thorough study and for their own safety," Nacianceno said.

He added that aside from crossing the road, the speedy flow of traffic along roads that had been widened may also be another factor leading to fatalities among pedestrians. Other causes: Crowded sidewalks which force pedestrians to walk on the road and undisciplined drivers who do not slow down as they approach pedestrian lanes.

Although last year's fatalities amounted to a 26 percent rise in accident-related deaths, the RSU said that the increase was mainly due to its boosted data gathering capacity, as its wider-reaching system of collating accident reports in the metropolis was initiated just last year.


LTS No. 13510
The Fastest Selling,
Best Value-For-Money Condo in the Country!
30 SQM Semi-Finished Units for as low as P640,800
"Total Cost, No Extra Fees."
Pictures shown are of furnished model unit. Actual turnover units are bare and semifinished.
SPAZIO BERNARDO
The Art of Quality Living
PHINMA PROPERTY HOLDINGS CORP.
City Living Made Easy
812-PPHC (7742)
0917-812-PPHC (7742)
Champaca Street, Mindanao Avenue, Quezon City
Just 8 Minutes from the MRT SM North terminal.
From Makati take EDSA upon reaching SM City North turn right then left to Mindanao Ave. pass Congressional-Tandang Sora Ave. turn right at Champaca St. (across HBC SPLASH)
www.spaziobernardo.com
Call our Lead Marketing Agents:
Boomland Realty: 939-7338
Granwood Realty: 929-8584

The Great Canon Projector SALE
March 20- 31, 2006
YEARS 3 WARRANTY
Native XGA Reigns Supreme
SRP: 76,500 Cash Price P 65,990
LV- X5 1500 ANSI True XGA
SRP: 99,960 Cash Price P 78,990
LV- 7240 2100 ANSI True XGA
SRP: 112,200 Cash Price P 89,990
LV- 7245 2500 ANSI True XGA
FREE Orig Pioneer DVD Player
Get into the technology of the next years. If you are still using or are buying SVGA projectors, think again. Almost all computers now are native XGA. Using SVGA is a mismatch, you still have to downgrade your resolution. Canon offers Native XGA projectors plus,as a bonus, we are giving away free original DVD player for every unit purchased within the promo period.
Location Map
Makati Medical Center
AMORSOLO ST
King's Court 1 (The venue)
Isuzu Makati
DELA ROSA ST
GIL PUYAT (Buendia)
PASONG TAMO (Chino Roces)
SOUTH SUPER HIGHWAY
Parking slots available
Canon
From the Projector Superstore.
COSMOTECH Projector World
MAKATI: Gnd Floor King's Court Bldg., Pasong Tamo cor. Dela Rosa St. Makati Tel: 759 2484 (10 lines)
SHOWROOM: G/F Cyberzone SM City Mall West (North Edsa), Q.C. Tel: 920 0241, 920 0954
Per DTI NCR permit # 0939 Series of 2006

DIVE INTO SUMMER
As the temperature soars with the onset of summer, residents in Navotas cool down by swimming in Manila Bay, just a few meters away from the town's newly-opened centennial park. RANDY HORMILLOSA

QC reaches out to landslide victims

By DJ Yap

TO REPLACE A SYMBOL OF GRIEF with one of healing, the people of Quezon City have presented Barangay Guinsaugon in St. Bernard town of Southern Leyte with a most welcome gift: A new school building.

The old Guinsaugon Elementary School was buried in the Feb. 17 landslide that nearly erased the barangay from the map, leaving scores dead and missing, and thousands homeless.

To some, the school represented the depth of the tragedy that had struck the area, as Filipinos were struck hard by the image of 200 schoolchildren and teachers buried alive in a sea of mud, rock and soil.

Rescue efforts were centered on locating the school in the hope of finding survivors. But in the end, rescuers lost the battle against time and the elements, and the buried school was consigned to its fate.

In the aftermath of the tragedy, Quezon City, one of the richest cities in the country, has extended a hand to help residents in the small barangay pick up the pieces and start anew.

For Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr., healing and recovery can begin once a new school has been built to replace the old one.

The Quezon City government turned over an initial amount of P5.3 million to Southern Leyte for the construction of a new school building in the barangay.

"The amount may not be enough but it manifests our deepest sympathies and brotherly condolences to the Southern Leyte victims," Belmonte said during the turnover ceremony at Quezon City Hall Bulwagan last week.

Southern Leyte Gov. Rosette Lerias personally received the amount during the turnover ceremony.

Belmonte and Lerias also signed a memorandum of agreement on the construction of the school building.

Under the agreement, a donation amounting to P6 million will be used to build a two-story school building with 12 classrooms that stand to benefit 200 pupils.

The school shall be constructed in an area that has been declared safe by disaster management authorities to prevent a repeat of the tragedy, according to the agreement.

The City Council earlier approved a resolution allocating P5 million for the relief and rehabilitation of the landslide victims.

Belmonte, on the other hand, collected an additional P1 million through a fund-raising program at City Hall.

The P700,000 balance will be given once the project is nearing completion.

Belmonte said building a new school to replace the old one is both timely and vital as the people of Barangay Guinsaugon, especially its schoolchildren, take the first few steps on the path to recovery.

WORKERS at the 168 Shopping Mall in Divisoria wait for the establishment to open, days after customs operatives conducted a raid. REM ZAMORA

Business groups laud 168 raid

By Leila B. Salaverria

SEVERAL BUSINESS GROUPS YESTERDAY lauded the Bureau of Customs' recent raid on the 168 Shopping Mall in Manila, with a trader calling the operation an encouraging sign in the fight against smuggling.

One of the groups, the Fair Trade Alliance (FTA), even offered to provide the BOC with lawyers to help prosecute individuals and companies that violate customs laws.

FTA executive director Rene Ofreneo said that with the raid, local industries have gained confidence in the government's antismuggling program.

"The signs are encouraging. Maybe this is now the real thing we have long been waiting for," FTA lead convenor Wigberto Tañada said in a statement.

During the raid conducted last Thursday, over 500 customs personnel seized the goods of stall owners who failed to prove that they had paid taxes for imported items being sold in their store.

Other groups which supported the BOC raid were the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI), the Employers Confederation of the Philippines (ECOP), the Philippine Exporters Confederation (Philexport) and the Federation of Filipino Chinese Chamber of Commerce Inc. (FCCCI).

Next step

"Hopefully, the next step is that we see big-time smugglers sent to jail and erring retailers of 168 mall being charged and prosecuted immediately. I hope BOC will not let up in its antismuggling drive," said PCCI president Donald Dee.

FCCCI president Francis Chua also commended Customs Commissioner Napoleon Morales for his "tenacity."

"For the first time, we have a customs commissioner who is not afraid of big-time smuggling syndicates," he said.

Chua also lauded the recent arrest of suspected smuggler Samuel Lee by the police. Lee, whom the police had described as a known plastic resin smuggler, has been charged with violating the country's tariff and customs code.

The BOC said the government could collect an estimated P700 million in taxes, duties and penalties following the raid on the mall.

The mall has around 800 tenants selling various items like shoes, clothes, toys and school and office supplies.

₱75,000 worth of shabu seized in Pasay

AGENTS OF THE PHILIPPINE DRUG Enforcement Agency (PDEA) yesterday raided three houses in a crowded residential area in Pasay City, where they seized around P75,000 worth of suspected shabu.

Two persons identified as Paking Bonos and Roberto Quijano were arrested during the three-hour operation on Tramo Street in Barangay 46, Zone 6. Authorities said they were looking for a third suspect identified as Archie Navarete, who was not around during the raid.

"We received reports that the sale of shabu is rampant in the area. The place is crowded, there are many people, and it's conducive to drugs," Senior Supt. Abe Lemos of PDEA's Metro Manila Regional Office said in a phone interview.

Seized from the three suspects' houses were 61 sachets which contained 25 grams of suspected shabu estimated to be worth P75,000. A small vault containing around P500,000 in cash was also taken from Navarete's house as the money, according to Lemos, may have come from drug pushing.

Lemos said the PDEA would file charges of drug pushing and possession against the three suspects.

"At least they would know that there is no letup in our antidrug operations," he told the INQUIRER.

Lemos added that 15 other persons who were inside the three houses at the time of the operation, including the suspects' relatives and friends, would be placed under investigation and tested for drug use. *Tarra V. Quismundo*

WORLDBRIEFS

Americans want Democrats in Congress

WASHINGTON—Most Americans want Democrats to take control of Congress in November mid-term elections, while 34 percent prefer a Republican Congress, a Newsweek Poll said Saturday. President George W. Bush's approval rating hit its lowest score in the Newsweek poll, the newsmagazine said in a statement, citing recent events, such as the Dubai ports controversy and the upcoming third anniversary of the Iraq war. Only 36 percent of American adults approve of the way the president is handling his job, according to results of the survey conducted on Thursday and Friday. Sixty-four percent are dissatisfied with the way things are going in the United States at this time, while only 30 percent are satisfied. *AFP*

Steaming website

ANCHORAGE, Alaska—Want to peer into the steaming summit of an erupting volcano without risking death? Anyone with an Internet connection and a computer can do just that, thanks to about 30 cameras and other recording devices set up on Alaska's Augustine Volcano that are streaming information to a website hosted by the Alaska Volcano Observatory, a joint federal-state office. The site http://www.avo.alaska.edu/activity/Augustine.php has received over 253 million hits since the start of the year, becoming a popular destination for everyone from scientists to amateur volcano buffs who want to keep tabs on the restless 1,260-meter volcano. "The Web has really revolutionized information dissemination and consequently the level of interest and knowledge of the public," said Shan de Silva, a volcanologist and professor at the University of North Dakota. *Reuters*

Iran frees most prominent dissident

GANJI REUTERS

TEHRAN—Iran's most prominent political prisoner, dissident Akbar Ganji, was released late Friday night after six years in prison. Visibly thinner and sporting a bushy beard, Ganji smiled and greeted family and friends Saturday but refused to make any comments. "He has decided not to talk due to his physical conditions. He should not get tired," Molai explained. Ganji, 46, was sentenced to six years in prison in 2001 after he wrote articles implicating several regime officials in a string of gruesome murders of opposition intellectuals and writers in 1998—crimes that shocked Iran. He did not give names, and instead kept readers guessing over the identity of the "Master Key" and the "Grey Eminence"—but the nicknames were widely interpreted as referring to former President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani and former Intelligence Minister Ali Fallahian. *AFP*

Parkinson's drug linked to gambling

WASHINGTON—Medical researchers are investigating suspicions that drugs prescribed to treat Parkinson's disease could turn patients into compulsive gamblers, the Washington Post reported on Sunday. Scientists at the Food and Drug Administration have found a strong association between pathological gambling and the drugs, which boost the level of dopamine in the brain, according to the newspaper. Dopamine, a chemical naturally produced in the human body, plays a key role in the way the brain controls movements. A shortage of dopamine causes Parkinson's disease. But the chemical is also associated with addictive behaviors such as drug use and pleasurable experiences such as sex and food. Researchers, according to the Washington Post, are looking into the possibility that drugs for treating Parkinson's are turning "some patients into obsessive pleasure seekers." *AFP*

French job law protests turn ugly

PARIS—CALM RETURNED TO Paris early Sunday after riot police tear-gassed scores of demonstrators in the wake of a demonstration by an estimated million people who took to the streets of France to protest a widely unpopular new labor law.

Hundreds of young demonstrators defied police following a peaceful march through Paris which attracted up to 350,000 people, hurling objects at officers who eventually drove them back, charging the crowd and using tear gas grenades.

Vehicles were set on fire and overturned, and nearby windows smashed. There were 166 arrests, while seven policemen and 17 demonstrators were injured in the unrest at the eastern Place de la Nation that lasted for six hours, police said.

About 500 students then marched on Paris' Sorbonne university in the Latin Quarter, the scene of earlier clashes.

Chanting "Liberate the Sorbonne!" the students charged and removed some barriers erected by police to block access to the university, and threw a Molotov cocktail at a riot police van, but a fire was quickly extinguished.

Police drove back the students with water cannon, and then deployed in front of the remaining barriers to prevent their advance.

In the Mediterranean port of Marseille hundreds of militants demonstrated, some trying to set fire to the entrance to the town hall before police drove them back. One officer was injured and six youths were arrested, police said.

There were also clashes in the northern city of Lille with police responding with tear gas, as well as Grenoble in the east and Clermont-Ferrand in the center.

Unions said 1.5 million demonstrators took part in more than 150 rallies across the country against the center-right government's First Employment Contract (CPE)—drawing students, workers, pensioners and families.

The interior ministry put the overall turnout at just over 500,000, but unions urged Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin to heed the message from the street.

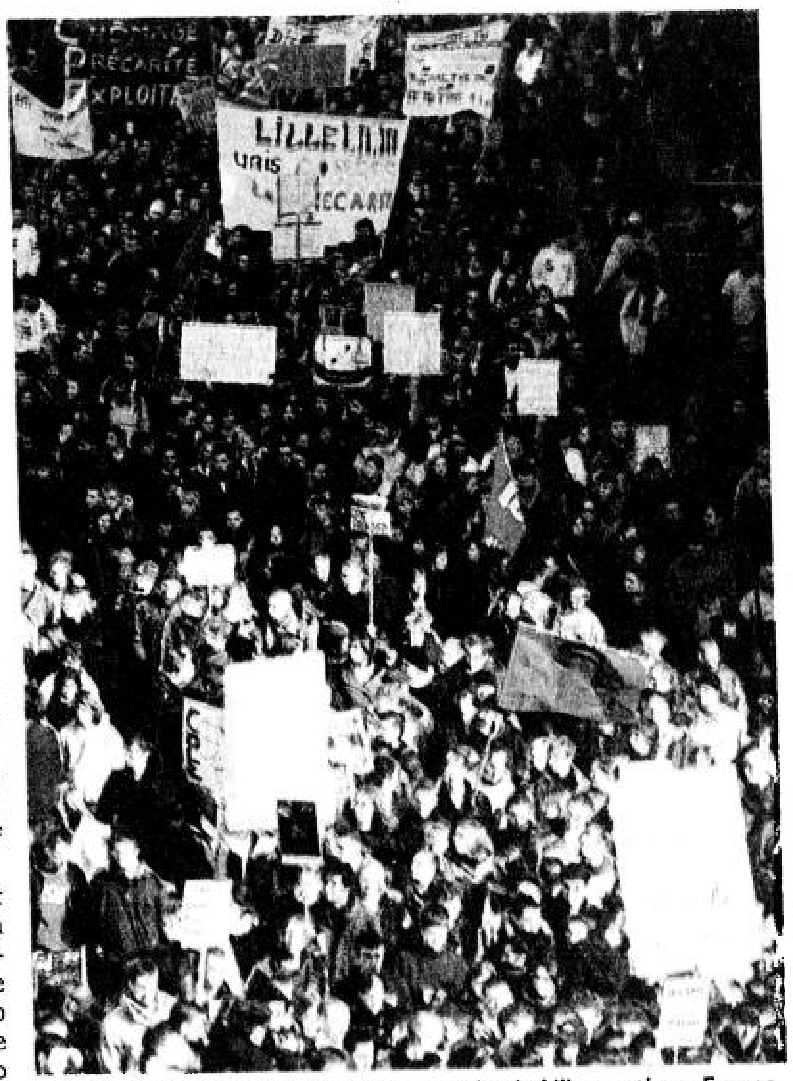
The CPE, a contract for under 26-year-olds that can be terminated in the first two years without explanation, is supposed to encourage employers to take on young staff.

Drawn up in the wake of riots late last year in high-immigration city suburbs—where youth unemployment can be as high as 50 percent—the CPE was approved by parliament last week as part of a wider equal opportunities law.

But the opposition says the CPE is a step back from hard-won labor rights, and will make it more difficult than ever for young people to find long-term employment.

"The demand for withdrawal of the CPE is gathering ever greater force. Seventy percent of the French want it withdrawn, and 80 percent of young people. The government is in a dead-end," said Bernard Thibault of the CGT union.

"Today we can clearly see that the mobilization is stronger than ever. Either the government listens to reason and withdraws the CPE, or it will be obliged to do so next week—because we will be back in the street," said Bruno Julliard of the UNEF students' union. *AFP*



YOUNG protesters during a demonstration in Lille, northern France, March 18. AP

Manila Water

Investing in Pipelines for the Future

Upgrade of distribution lines in Mandaluyong City will cause several temporary water interruptions

Manila Water will undertake several projects in Mandaluyong City to further improve the distribution of water in the East Zone. Unfortunately, several temporary water service cutoffs will be needed in different scheduled dates to fully complete the project which will involve the looping and interconnection of pipelines. The first interruption will start 10:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 21, 2006, up to 6:00 a.m., March 22. Areas affected will be: Bgys. Bagong Silang, Hagdang Bato Itaas, Hagdang Bato Libis, Daang Bakal, Poblacion, Burol, Pagasa and Harapin ang Bukas.

The second interruption will start 10:00 p.m., Thursday, March 23, up to 6:00 a.m., March 24. Affected areas will be Bagong Silang and Hagdang Bato Libis.

Meanwhile, the third interruption will start 10:00 p.m., Monday, March 27, up to 6:00 a.m., March 28. Affected areas will be Barangay Daang Bakal.

Manila Water Company is advising all residents of the said areas to store enough water prior to the scheduled interruptions to avoid inconvenience.

For the latest update, please call our Customer Call Center Hotline at 1627.

We don't just lay pipes, we improve lives.

(PDI - March 20, 2006)

SENRUN®
Premier Professional Portable Wireless PA System

Anytime, Anywhere Sound System

16 Channels UHF Wireless Microphones
Wireless Lapel Microphone

A professional mixer, amplifier, wireless and wired microphones, CD/ Cassette, with built- in batteries combined in a small but powerful sound system. Truly a versatile and portable professional quality sound system that can be brought anywhere anytime. Sets- up in a minute. Built- in Feedback Suppressor.

Best Applications
Conference Room, Hotels
Churches, Prayer Meetings
Chapels, Lectures, Campaigns
Prayer meetings, Outings
Schools/ Classs rooms
Hospitals and many more...

EP-2001TD

75W RMS,2 Mic In,1 or 2 Wireless Mic Bilt- In CD/ Cassette, Line In for keyboards etc. 13.8 Kgs., Free Trolley and bag. One charging lasts for up to 10 hours of usage.

With trolley with wheels.

Exclusive Distributor.
COSMOTECH Communications and Systems Co.
Metro Manila 7592484, 9200241, 9200954 Cebu 032-4223201 Davao 082-2258893

DEALERS AND RESELLERS WELCOME

Super Shopping, Super Rewards!
ShopMore
Shop
SM
Over P2 million in cash & prizes! 2 draws! Lots of winners!
SUPER LOANS, SUPER PRIZES!

With BDO Shop More MasterCard,
you get a FREE SM Advantage Card and enjoy ...

More Rewards Points!
More Installment Values!
More Discounts & Privileges!
More Shopping Pleasure!
at SM

Get a chance to be one of the 60 lucky winners!
Activate your BDO Shop More MasterCard within March 1 to December 31, 2006 and you automatically get a raffle number qualifying you for the draw!

Plus, More Savings!
As low as 0.88%* balance transfer rate!
FREE Membership Fee for the first 12 months!
FREE up to 5 Supplementary Cards for 1 year!

Call 631-8000 or 1-800-10-6318000 (Domestic Toll Free) or visit the Shop More booths or BDO On-site at selected SM Malls.

BDO Credit Cards

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

Egypt suffers first death from bird flu

CAIRO—A 30-YEAR-OLD EGYPTIAN woman has died of bird flu, becoming the country's first human victim of the virus, the health ministry said on Saturday.

It said the woman from Qaloubiyah province, about 40 km north of Cairo, where the highly pathogenic H5N1 strain has been detected in poultry, was taken ill on Wednesday.

"They (doctors) took samples for analysis at the Ministry of Health laboratories … They confirmed she was infected with bird flu. She died on Friday morning," a ministry statement said, adding the woman had been given Tamiflu, a drug used to treat suspected cases of bird flu.

Israel said on Saturday that four poultry workers suspected of having bird flu had tested negative for the virus, after the country detected its first cases of H5N1 in birds on Friday.

Bird flu has spread across Europe, Africa and parts of Asia and killed at least 98 people worldwide since 2003.

Although hard to catch, people can contract bird flu after coming into contact with infected birds. Scientists fear the virus could mutate into a form that could pass easily between humans, triggering a pandemic in which millions could die.

The World Health Organization (WHO) confirmed that Egypt had reported its first human case of bird flu.

Dr. Hassan al-Bushra, WHO's regional adviser for communicable diseases surveillance, said the H5N1 bird flu virus had been found in a blood sample taken from the woman, and that other samples were being tested for further confirmation.

Egypt reported its first cases of bird flu in poultry flocks last month. Media and state reports say H5N1 has now been detected in at least 17 of Egypt's 26 governorates and the city of Luxor.

Egyptian farmers say the poultry market—worth about 17 billion Egyptian pounds ($3 billion) and supporting up to 3 million people—has been devastated.

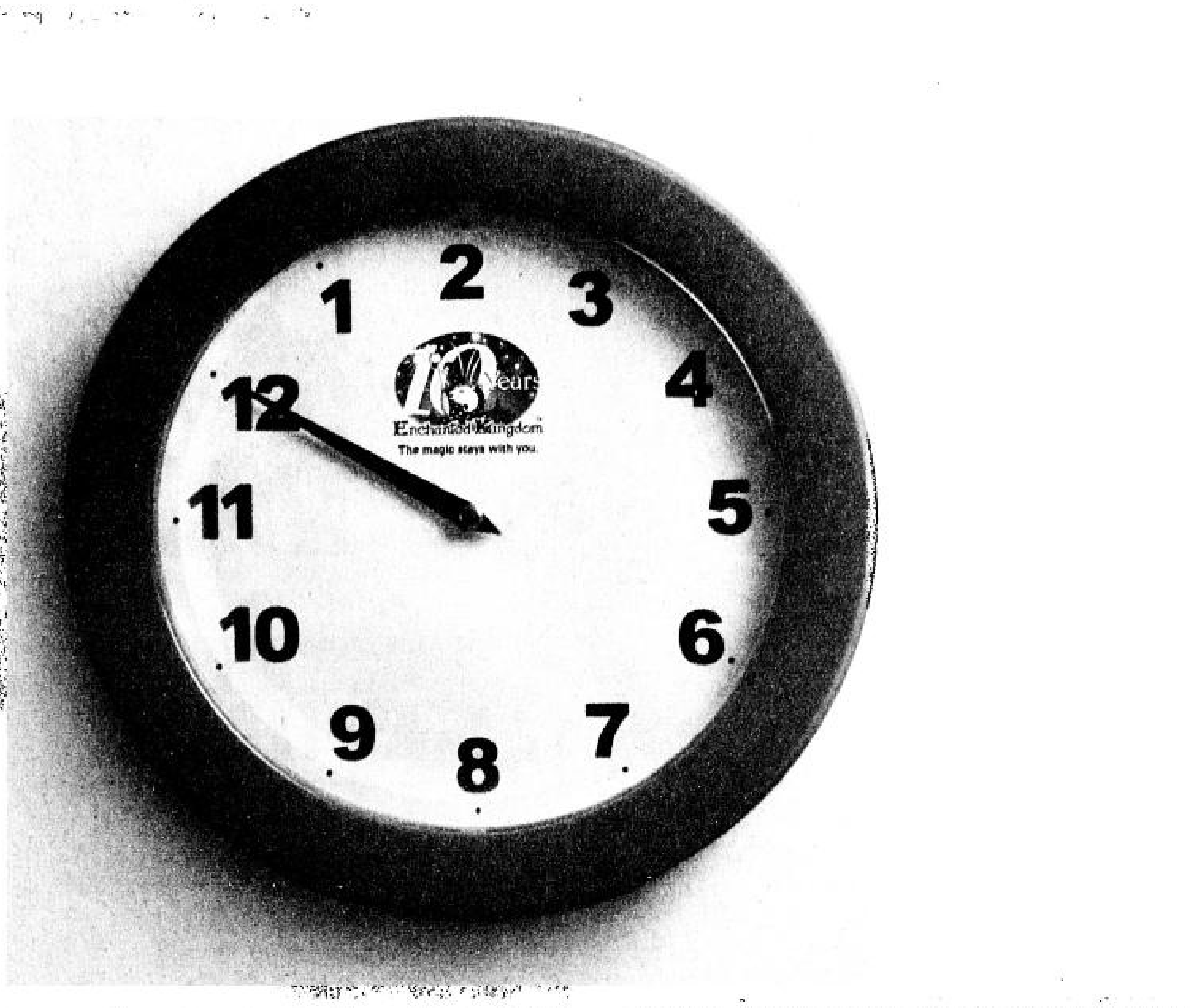
Israeli workers culled thousands of turkeys and chickens but authorities said further tests were needed to confirm whether an outbreak on two farms was of the deadly H5N1 strain of bird flu.

The health ministry said four people who had been suspected of having bird flu had tested negative.

Israeli officials said poultry in the infected areas and their surroundings would be culled and the carcasses buried in underground pits.

In a rare act of cooperation, Israel was also testing dead fowl found in the West Bank and Gaza on behalf of the Palestinian Authority.

Reuters



On April 2, 2006, Enchanted Kingdom will open at 12 noon instead of the usual 10 am. But the magic will go on until midnight.

Park Address: San Lorenzo South, City of Santa Rosa, Laguna • Makati Sales Office: Ground Floor, The Biltmore Condominium, 102 Aguirre St., Legaspi Vill., Makati City. Tel. Nos. 830-21-11 to 16 and 843-60-73 to 78. www.enchantedkingdom.com.ph IAAPA A proud member since 1992

Tuloy-tuloy ang panalo!
Congrats to the 3rd raffle draw winners of
MEAN MACHINES
Mula sa Tansan
Colt 45
ICE

20 Honda XRM Winners

Luzon & GMA

Gina P. Cabotaje
Phase 1, Package 2, Block 27, Lot 7, Bagong Silang, Caloocan City

Rosalie D. Norombaba
41 Int. Ilaya Street, Alabang, Muntinlupa City

Agnes C. Polines
#3 Bayanihan Drive, Bayanihan Village, Cainta, Rizal

Rose Marie C. Juganas
Block 3, Lot 14, Goodwill Townhomes I, Bagbag, Novaliches, Quezon City

Carmelita L. Sarmiento
525 San Nicholas, Minalin, Pampanga

Antonio C. Agaser
Parulan, Plaridel, Bulacan

Leoncio M. Vivar
Tabuating, San Leonardo, Nueva Ecija

Jose D. Curiano
Purok 1, Bombon, Tabaco City, Albay

Zenaida B. Pagao
Purok 5, Tugos Paracale, Camarines Norte

MaryAnne O. Carranceja
Purok 5, San Isidro, Talisay, Camarines Norte

Visayas

Ryan B. Piczon
Legaspi Avenue, Catbalogan, Samar

Nelly A. Co
Twin Sis Videoke House, Van Vans, Terminal Guian, Eastern Samar

Magie B. Bansale
Payao Binalbagan, Negros Occidental

Carlito D. Gaitano
East Valencia, Buenavista, Guimaras Island

Mindanao

Julieta P. Olivar
Agora Mambato, Lapasan, Cagayan De Oro

Gerry B. Amarille
Poblacion Baroy, Lanao Del Norte

Tessie L. Ilizan
Moco Carmon, Cagayan De Oro City c/o Ramirez Residence

Richard N. Capisen
c/o SY Chiao Bon Equitable PCI Bank, Rizal Avenue, Ozamis City

Genalyn C. Nacario
Zone 1, Block 1, Barangay Fatima, General Santos City

Carlos P. Lagunay
Poblacion Mahayag, Zamboanga Del Sur

10 Toyota VIOS Winners

Luzon & GMA

Jeffrey D. Plameras
2829 Limay Street, Manuguit Subdivision, Tondo, Manila

Marlon N. Consigo, Jr.
390 Victoria Village, Canumay Street, Valenzuela City

Geronimo M. Bernabe
Block 6, Lot 271, Barangay 649, Zone 68, Baseco Port Area, Manila

Rolando D. Basangan
351 Baglo Street, Bagumbayan, Bulacan, Bulacan

Jasper L. Jaraya
A. Bonifacio Street, Maaliw Pitogo, Quezon

Visayas

Elvie C. Napitan
Poblacion Anteguera, Bohol

Mariarico M. Chiva
Barangay Barrio Calinog, Calinog, Iloilo

Mindanao

Fausto W. Cena
Agora Mambato, Lapasan, Cagayan De Oro City

Myrna M. Ponferrada
83-2 Rizal Extension, Davao City

Clayford L. Santoyas
1st Road, Calumpang, General Santos City

Todo 'nyo na, mga Bro!

Final Raffle Draw ng last 10 Toyota VIOS at 20 Honda XRMs, gaganapin sa week of April 17! Habol na! May millions of instant prizes pa rin!

Deadline for entries: March 31, 2006

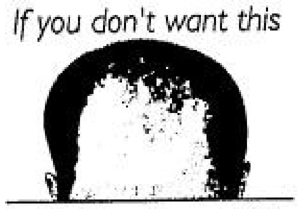
Keep sending entries - Remember, the more entries you send, the more chances you win!

Congratulations to all GLOBE phonekit instant winners, too! Marami pang mapapanalunan!

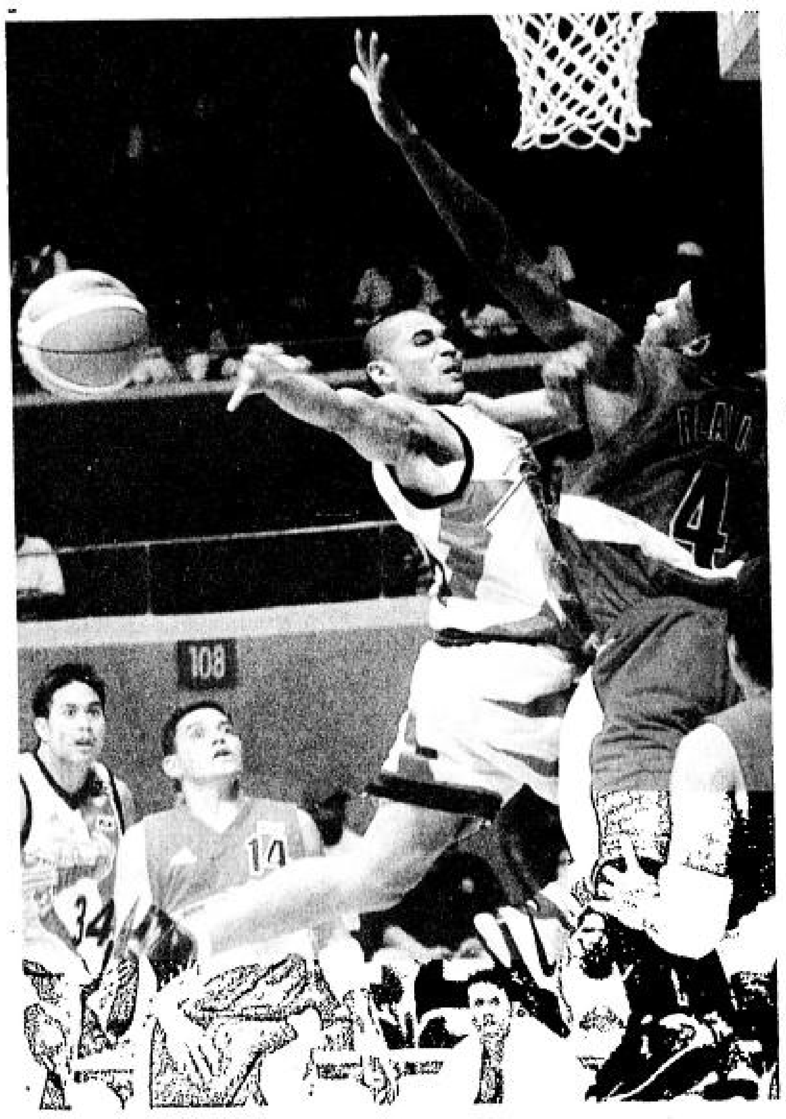
Promo period: October 15, 2005 to February 15, 2006 See poster for details. Per DOH-BFAD Permit No. 1067, Series of 2005 DRINK MODERATELY

SPORTS
E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph
Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres
Text us your feedback: inquirer sprt name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

If you don't want this



Stop Hair Loss Now.
Call Svenson at 892-HAIR



A DRIVING Brandon Cablay of San Miguel Beer opts to make a pass as Rafi Reavis of Coca Cola applies pressure. ERIK ARAZAS

Tense Tigers survive Beermen's late surge

By Musong R. Castillo

COCA-COLA HAS BEEN ON EDGE RECENTLY, but the results have been the same and the Tigers are continuing to surprise the Gran Matador Brandy-PBA Philippine Cup field.

GAMES WEDNESDAY
(Araneta Coliseum)
4:40 p.m.—Red Bull vs. Sta. Lucia
7:35 p.m.—Purefoods vs. Barangay Ginebra

The Tigers won for the fourth straight time last night, thanks in part to two freakish San Miguel blunders in the end game of a 75-72 decision that kept Coke in the elimination round lead.

The Tigers almost blew a 16-point lead and had to scramble in the final minutes to eke out the win in the game that featured the tournament's two hottest clubs at the Araneta Coliseum.

"We got lucky again," Coke coach Binky Favis said.

In the second game, Alaska got its second win in four outings with a 99-84 rout of Air21, which dropped to 1-3.

John Arigo hit two charities with 11.5 ticks left off a Brandon Cablay foul before the Beermen threw away the chance to forge extension with sloppy ball handling at the other end.

It was the second straight close shave for the Tigers counting their 80-72 victory over Purefoods last week. The past two victories have been a far departure to the first two, where the Tigers blew away their foes by a combined 16.5 points.

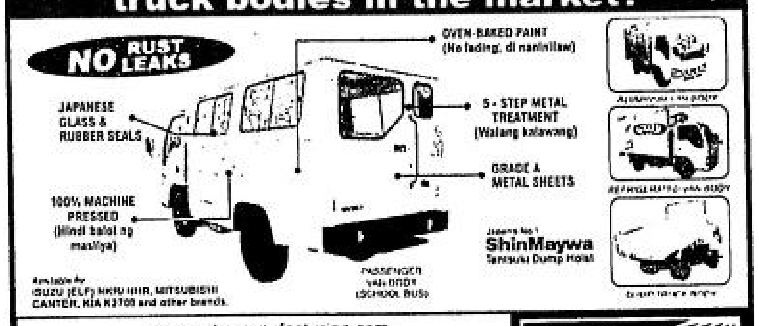
The scores:

COCA-COLA 75—Arigo 16, Singson 13, Antonio 10, Mamaril 9, Peek 9, Reavis 7, Abarrientos 5, Wainwright 4, Miranda 2, Morano 0.

SAN MIGUEL 72—Ildefonso 20, Seigle 16, Racela 10, Pena 10, Noble 6, Adriano 4, Calaguio 3, Hontiveros 3, Kong 0, Cablay 0.

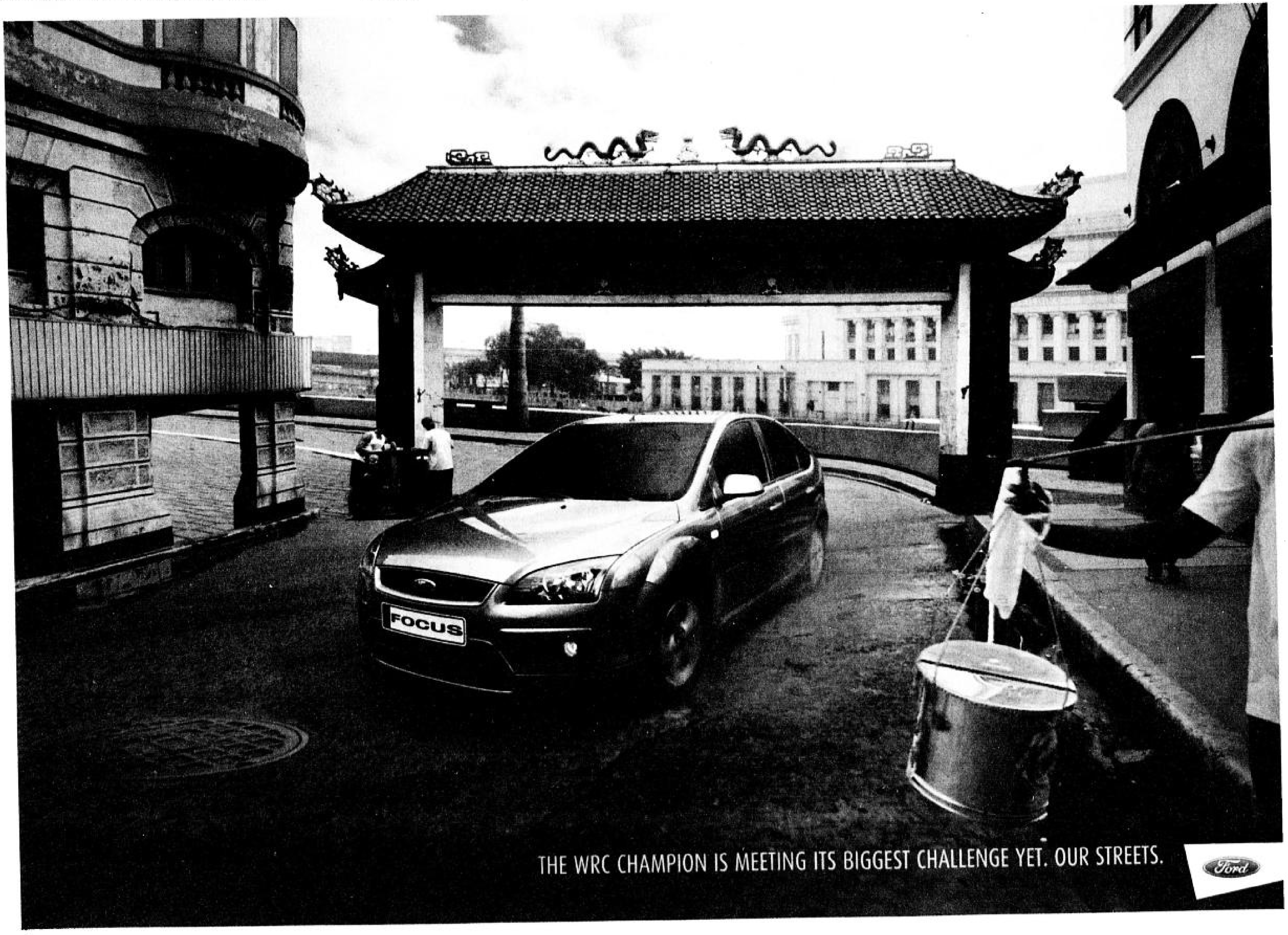
Quarters: 20-all, 38-36, 58-51, 75-72

Tired of SUBSTANDARD and INFERIOR truck bodies in the market?

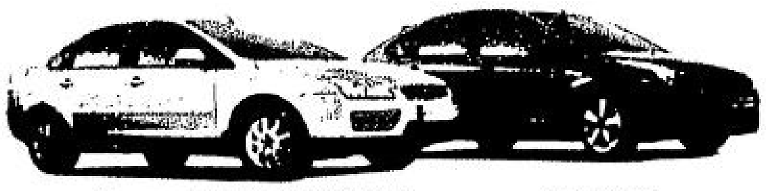


NO RUST LEAKS
OVEN-BAKED PAINT (No fading, di naninilaw)
JAPANESE GLASS & RUBBER SEALS
5-STEP METAL TREATMENT (Walang kalawang)
GRADE A METAL SHEETS
100% MACHINE PRESSED (Hindi bakal ng maliya)
ShinMaywa
PASSENGER VAN BODY (SCHOOL BUS)

www.centromanufacturing.com
CENTRO MANUFACTURING CORPORATION
ISO 9001:2000 World Class Quality
Call us at Tel: 930-0971/ 939-3710
Call or Text: (0917) 349-2217



FOCUS
THE WRC CHAMPION IS MEETING ITS BIGGEST CHALLENGE YET. OUR STREETS.
Ford



Now available 1.6L Trend
2.0L Sport

After reigning supreme in WRC Monte Carlo and Sweden, conquering gravel and asphalt, rain and snow, hills and valleys, the Ford' Focus is here. Discover how the European Styling, German Engineering and Superb Driving Dynamics of the 2.0L Sport, 1.8L Ghia and the 1.6L Trend can add exhilaration to city-driving.

www.ford.com.ph
Ford Solutions
FORD FOCUS DRIVE YOUR LIFE

• Ford Alabang, Trunk Lines: 842-3681 / 842-4628; Fax No.: 807-4430 • Ford Balintawak, Trunk Line: 927-9648; Fax No.: 927-5981 • Ford Commonwealth, Tel Nos.: 952-9118; 952-9441, 952-9446 Fax No: 952-9440 • Ford EDSA Greenhills, Tel. No.: 744-2222; Fax No.: 723-6311 • Ford EDSA Service Center Tel. No.: 723-7029 • Ford Libis, Trunk Line: 637-2044; Fax No. 637-6008 • Ford Global City, Trunkline: 860-8888, Fax No: 818-5000 • Ford Manila, Tel. No.: 562-5555 Fax No.: 562-8985 • Ford Quezon Avenue, Tel Nos.: 731-2617 / 742-3435 / 742-3436 Fax: 742-3451 • Ford Shaw Blvd., Trunk Line: 717-0888; Telefax: 717-1390 • Ford Pampanga, Trunk Line: (045) 961-2888, Fax Nos.: (045) 963-5205 / 961-2277 • Ford Cabanatuan, Tel No.: (044) 464-0111; Fax No: (044) 600-4200 • Ford Dagupan, Tel No. (075) 522-2222, Telefax: (075) 515-5520 • Ford San Pablo, Tel. No.: (049) 562-9186; Telefax: (049) 562-8324 • Ford Cavite, Tel. No.: (046) 472-2040; Fax: (046) 472-2048 • Ford Cebu, Trunk Line: (032) 231-9180, Fax No.: (032) 231-9023 • Ford Bacolod, Tel No.: (034) 432-2151, Telefax: (034) 434-2877 • Ford Davao, Tel. No.: (082) 234-1111; Fax No.: (082) 234-2222 • Ford Credit, Tel No.: 635-1251 • Ford Iloilo, Tel. No.: (033) 321-3352; Telefax No.: (033) 321-3351 • Ford Cagayan de Oro, Tel. No.: (088) 855-8811; Telefax: (088) 855-8877

PETRON Fuel Success.
Laban, laban sa Petron Rev-X!
X-pert sa makina, X-tra ang kita.

Lina sticks to his guns on Fiba suspension

By Jasmine W. Payo

BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION OF THE Philippines (BAP) president Joey Lina reiterated his belief yesterday that the international basketball federation (Fiba) will not lift the suspension on the country even with a new basketball federation already created.

LINA

"Forming a new body while [the] BAP remains Fiba's member in good standing will not achieve the goal of lifting Fiba's suspension," said Lina, who lamented that people were trying to discredit him.

"It seems that I'm being unreasonable because I'm not joining their group," he said.

Swimming president Mark Joseph, who heads the Philippine Olympic Committee basketball task force, said his group has no plans to woo Lina just to be able to fully satisfy the requirements set forth by the Fiba for the lifting of the country's suspension from international meets.

"Mr. Lina's refusal to cooperate will not change anything," said Joseph.

"My opinion (last Saturday) urging Mr. Lina to reconsider his decision to break fellowship with the major stakeholders for the sake of unity in basketball, was mine alone. I do not presume to speak for the POC at all," he further clarified.

Lina has accused the POC and its task force of keeping him away from unification talks. He added that "without even conferring" with him, the POC and the other stakeholders decided to form Pilipinas Basketball to replace the BAP.

"Mr. Lina's accusation that the POC has not been honest and transparent is uncalled for," said Joseph.

Joseph stressed that the group is simply abiding by the memorandum of understanding between the Fiba and the POC that tasked the five stakeholders to form a new basketball federation in the country.

Lina insisted that the best way to lift the Fiba suspension is to incorporate the major stakeholders into a restructured BAP. The POC and the stakeholders, he added, already agreed upon this process after four meetings. But another process—the formation of a new federation—was "abruptly agreed upon" during the fifth meeting, which Lina failed to attend.

Backed by the PBA, PBL, UAAP and the NCAA, the structure of Pilipinas Basketball will be presented by POC president Jose "Peping" Cojuangco to Fiba secretary general Patrick Baumann for approval this month.

Unless the suspension is lifted, the country cannot compete in all international events, including the Asian Games this December.

Miller, Alapag get monkey off TNT's back

By June Navarro

HONG KONG—WILLIE MILLER AND JIMMY Alapag found their touch from the outside and Talk 'N Text finally got its signals right, torching Purefoods, 88-66, Sunday in the Purefoods Chunkee in the Gran Matador Brandy-PBA Philippine Cup.

Defying the chill at the Queen Elizabeth Stadium here, Alapag and Miller combined for seven triples that triggered a breakaway and finally pull the Phone Pals out of a 0-2 hole.

"We just wanted to get the monkey off our backs," said Talk 'N Text coach Derrick Pumaren after the Phone Pals survived a third-quarter scare from Kerby Raymundo before wildly cheering overseas Filipino workers here.

Miller finished with 28 points, including four straight treys at one stretch.

Raymundo led a furious rally that pulled Purefoods within eight, 52-64, before Alapag drained two crushing three-pointers that eventually sent the Giants to their second defeat in three games.

"We gave the crowd a really good game and showed what Talk 'N Text can do," said Pumaren, who scored his first victory as Phone Pals head coach. "This is a treat for the OFWs here."

Tickets already sold out a few days back but for some reason, the gallery section of the 3,000-seat arena wasn't filled to the brim.

The Giants opened the game as cold as the frosty air-conditioning system of the stadium, missing their first five attempts from the field and watching shooter James Yap uncharacteristically miss five straight free throws.

The Talk 'N Text lead ballooned to 80-55 following Alapag's treys.

Philippine consul general Rufino Vicente was present during the ceremonial toss for the game, only the PBA's second overseas match in history.

The scores:

TALK 'N TEXT 88—Miller 28, Carey 14, Alapag 11, Taulava 10, Cardona 8, Avenido 7, Pablo 5, Ferriols 5, Villoria 0, Meneses 0, Juinio 0, Cantonjos 0.

PUREFOODS 66—Raymundo 24, Pingris 15, J. Yap 9, R. Yap 5, Limpot 4, Artadi 3, Tejada 3, Evangelista 2, Castillo 1, Billones 0, Yee 0, Gamboa 0.

Quarters: 30-16, 46-31, 54-52, 88-66

WILLIE Miller gets his game—and the Phone Pals—going.

Iligan Crusaders trounce Cotabato Braves

ILIGAN CITY—PRE-SEASON FAVORITE ILIGAN LIVED up to its billing Saturday by whipping expansion team North Cotabato, 96-78, in the 2006 NBC national basketball championship at the packed MSU-IIT gym here.

The Firefly Lightings-backed Crusaders of Mayor Lawrence Cruz and team manager Freddie Siao led from start to finish, but they needed a league-record 36-point quarter in the payoff period to turn the game into a rout.

Former UST Tiger Derrick Hubalde and ex-Laguna playmaker Marlon Kalaw combined for 13 points to spark that record binge in the last 10 minutes and hold off Gov. Manny Piñol's Braves, who rallied to within a basket, 58-60, behind the incursions of Michael Etrata, Rex Ligue and Jerold Cabanog.

Kalaw won player of the game honors.

With their first victory, the Crusaders matched the 1-0 card of Valencia Golden Harvest, which nipped Pagadian in Friday's southern division opener in Pagadian City.

Spring Cooking Oil-Parañaque and Batang Tagaytay also carry 1-0 slates in the northern division of the tournament sponsored by Panasonic, Sulpicio Lines, Nature's Spring Mineral Water, Spring Cooking Oil, Regent Foods, Firefly Lightings, Molten and Prime Channel.

"The boys were fun to watch on the court," said Iligan coach Jun Longalong. "They followed our game plan to the letter. The crowd's support was quite overwhelming."

NBC games are aired at 10 p.m. daily over Prime Channel.

The scores:

ILIGAN 96—Kalaw 23, HUbalde 21, Go 11, Nicdao 9, Omiping 9, Matias 7, Ayodelle 6, Canoy 4, Calrence 3, Sagad 2, Gandarosa 1.

N. COTABATO 78—Etrata 14, Ligue 12, Binas 10, Clar 9, Jawod 4, Reyes 4, Allado 2, Coldura 2, Del Monte 2, Dagatan 2.

Quarters: 24-16, 41-33, 60-53, 96-78

3878Y
BY
SVG
1367
VG
87
Sun
SK Shipping
BREAKTHROUGH VICTORY: Selma Star-SK Shipping (third from left, SVG 1367), skippered by the Philippines' Jun Avecilla, jockeys for position at the start of Cruiser-Racer competition of the Singapore Straits Regatta off Batam, Indonesia, one of the legs of the recent sea race which the Filipino ruled. Avecilla's sleek Beneteau 36.7 yacht won against a tough field in her maiden international race. Already the winner of the IRC B division of the Standard Insurance-Smart Infinity Manila-to-Boracay Race last month, Avecilla is also expected to guide Selma Star to line honors in the President's Cup Regatta in Subic Bay on April 18 to 22.

Kilimanjaro conquers Chairman's Cup field

By Musong R. Castillo

CARMONA, CAVITE—KILIMANJARO CAME up with a mammoth finishing kick under the superb handling of Patty Dilema last night to overpower the field in the P1 million 2006 Philracom Chairman's Cup at the San Lazaro Leisure Park here.

Sent off as the fourth choice, Kilimanjaro waited for the speedballs to tire before Dilema wheeled her into position rounding the far turn.

The three-year-old bay colt by Khoozam out of Peggy B rallied wide and picked off a fagged out Manila's Gem with ease to win by close to two lengths.

Juggernaut, last year's champion juvenile and tipped as the brightest hope to become the next Triple Crown champion, was scratched at the last minute. Reports said the undefeated filly had bone spurs in a front leg.

Manila's Gem, the speedster handled by Jessie B. Guce, labored the entire mile behind Million Dollar, who refused to yield the lead, and heavy favorite King's Dominion who cornered sales of 381,494 out of the total forecast pool of P1,171,328.

King's Dominion, another colt piloted by veteran Antonio B. Alcasid, actually grabbed the lead in the backstretch where Kilimanjaro lagged at the tail-end of the nine-horse pack, a good eight lengths behind.

But Dilema applied the whip and Kilimanjaro responded, zooming into contention in the final quarter en route to victory, worth P600,000 for owner Michael Trilliana.

Kilimanjaro clocked 1:42 on quarters of 24.5, 24, 25.5, 28 over 1,600 meters.

Manila's Gem settled for the P225,000 runner-up purse, while the third-finishing Million Dollar won P125,000 and fourth placer King's Dominion took P50,000.

Sta. Elena Cup stakes P6M in prizes

THE 10TH EDITION OF THE STA. ELENA Cup member-guest invitational tournament will be held from March 30 to April 2 with prizes worth more than P6 million up for grabs.

A BMW 3-Series, a Toyota Camry and a Mazda 3, plus golf carts from Yamaha, all with a combined value of about P4 million, will be staked as hole-in-one prizes on holes to be designated by the multiawarded Sta. Elena Golf Club.

This will be apart from an exciting raffle package that includes Omega watches, an Alaska cruise for two inclusive of airfare, appliances and equipment, and cash prizes of P500,0000 and P300,000.

Sponsors include Omega, Mizuno, Royal Carribean, The Golf Shop of Baron Travel, Sta. Elena Properties, Pepsi, Aviva and Intellicare. Hole-in-one sponsors are Toyota Motor Philippines Inc., Prestige Cars Pasong Tamo, Mazda Greenhills, Kart Plaza Manufacturing and Club Car.

The event was booked in record time. A total of 226 two-player team slots were filled up in less than two days.

Practice rounds starting tomorrow will allow guests to familiarize themselves with the conditions of the course that has been consistently chosen as the country's best and among Asia's finest.

Venzon Paz and Bobby Inigo are the defending net champions while Kevin Tayao and Raymund Sangil are returning to shoot for a repeat of their low gross victory last year.

Call Center golf tees off at Midlands today

A HUNDRED PLAYERS OR SO ARE SEEING ACTION IN THE CALL CENTER EXECUtive Golf Challenge 2 today at the picturesque Tagaytay Midlands Golf Club. Tee-off time is 9 a.m. after the registration which starts at 7 a.m. The 18-hole invitational tournament, staged by Contact Center Association of the Philippines, is supported chiefly by Plantronics as the title sponsor with Avaya and PLDT Business Solutions as co-presenters. A brand-new Toyota Innova will be awarded to the player who scores the first ace on the 17th hole. Prizes will be awarded to the top finishers in the various handicap divisions. Participants will come from various Call Centers which are members of CCAP, according to Raffy David and Jojo Uligan, head organizers of the tournament.

COMMON MYTHS ABOUT NATURAL HAIR RESTORATION
Hair transplantation is very expensive.
At the offices of Andrew G. Pineda, M.D. a full-time Beverly Hills trained hair transplant specialist, we have designed patient specific programs to make hair restoration more affordable than ever before.
BEFORE
AFTER
All it takes is one session to restore your hair.
Live interview with Dr. Pineda on Damayan March 20, 2006 at 1p.m. PTV 4
A. Pineda Medical Clinic
Suite 612 Medical Towers Makati, Rufino Street
Legaspi Village, Makati City
MANILA 8130691 • DAVAO 2212682
www.pinedahair.com

Much-awaited showdown

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo

NO DOUBT ABOUT it, the legions of racing fans are looking forward to a rematch between two of the country's outstanding gallopers, Real Spicy and Speed Advantage. Both horses have met previously and scored a victory over each other, thus making their return meeting a most keenly awaited clash.

On record, Real Spicy has had a more fruitful and active schedule this year compared with Speed Advantage. Owned by sports patron Hermie Esguerra, Real Spicy recently made a rousing debut as a four-year-old by winning the 2006 Philracom Commissioner's Cup at the Santa Ana Park on March 12. "He (Real Spicy) is really in top condition," said the proud owner from Plaridel, Bulacan.

Undefeated in four consecutive races this year, Real Spicy is a handsome island-born chestnut colt by Real Quiet, a two-leg winner of the US Triple Crown, out of Spicy Tale. He is being honed for two more races before the staging of this year's Silver Cup on May 14, eyeing another major stakes race victory over an expected banner field which includes arch rival Speed Advantage.

Flying the colors of the Bobby Yutadco Stable, Speed Advantage is a four-year-old bay colt by Royal Premier out of Trudy Capote (US). He is bred by real estate executive Toti Cariño.

Both horses are noted speedsters, but many say their most remarkable triumphs were registered when they were backed by stablemates.

***

WHO RUNS DANCE SPORT IN RP?

Former congressman and now POC president Jose Cojuangco Jr. clarified recently that the Philippine Professional Dance Sport Association under the leadership of Stanley or Stan Alexander, an Australian, is not authorized by the POC to conduct any training and promote dance sport in the Philippines.

But how on earth could the Department of Education and the Commission for Higher Education ignore this POC ruling by allowing Alexander's group to provide full technical support and guidance to the DepEd and CHED? What on earth is wrong with these people?

The rule is crystal clear: The Dance Sport Council of the Philippines is the national sport association in the country that is accredited by the POC and the Philippine Sports Commission. The DSCP, as an NSA under Republic Act 6847, has the exclusive technical control over the promotion and development of dance sport in the Philippines.

In her letter to Dr. Fe Hidalgo, DepEd officer-in-charge, and Carlito Puno, CHED chair, DSCP president Becky Garcia said, "Our organization is the recognized NSA for dance sport pursuant to Section 3 of RA 6847, an act creating and establishing the Philippine Sports Commission, defining its powers, functions and responsibilities, appropriating funds therefore, and for other purposes.

"The Dance Sport Council of the Philippines has the exclusive technical control over the promotion and development of dance sport in the Philippines. We just successfully hosted the 23rd Southeast Asian Games in Cebu where dance sport was included for the first time and won the first two gold medals and two silver medals for the Philippines. We have definitely made the Philippines and our council proud.

"Mr. Alexander and his group are not authorized to provide technical support and guidance to the Department of Education for the inclusion of dance sport in the 2006 Palarong Pambansa as well as to implement dance sport in the school curriculum. Thus, we seek your cooperation and assistance through the nullification of any existing agreements with Stan or Stanley Alexander."

The DSCP also said it was endorsing instead the Professional Dance Teachers Association of the Philippines headed by lawyer Ma. Cecilia Katigbak "as the authorized training arm of the DSCP to undertake the technical support and guidance to the education department and the Commission for Higher Education and all other government agencies."

And while on the subject of dance sport, I would like to doff my hat to the winners of the recent First Quarter Ranking and Competitions led by TV host and actress Regine Tolentino, who topped the Grade E Latin category with partner Greg Dimarucut.

The other winners were Emmanuel Reyes-Maira Rosete, John Erolle Melencio-Dearlie Gerodias, Mark Leonel Perez-Yoshiko Motoyama, Crisanto Parado-Jocelyn Macopia, Gemini Sangual-Susan Medalle, Manolito Mendoza-Annalyn Viray, Arthur Eroles-Jenevieve Camacho, Benny Lao-Merlyn del Mundo, Crisaldo Rendon-Eleamor Hayco, Wilfred Glenn Sto. Domingo-Gilda Lim, PSA awardees Reynato Rener Mercado-Judith Anne Melencio, Roan Jett Fernandez-Jonnalyn Geminiano, Jumil Bacalso-Virgianie Oyao, Jefferson Pimentel-Daine Xylene Balili and Virginiño Legarde-Divina Lamosa.

Cuba, Japan reach final round of World Baseball Classic

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA—BASEBALL was created in the United States but it appears to have been perfected in Cuba and Japan.

The Japanese avenged two prior losses to previously unbeaten South Korea with a 6-0 victory here Saturday in the World Baseball Classic to book a date in Monday's final against Cuba, which eliminated the Dominican Republic, 3-1.

"I believe this team is probably the strongest team Japan ever had against Cuba," Japan manager Sadaharu Oh said. "We can show a great performance against Cuba on Monday. Win or lose we'll play with a lot of heart and a lot of pride."

The championship game of the first global tournament featuring Major League Baseball players will include only two major leaguers, Japanese outfielder Ichiro Suzuki and pitcher Akinori Otsuka, and Communist Cuba's amateur dynasty.

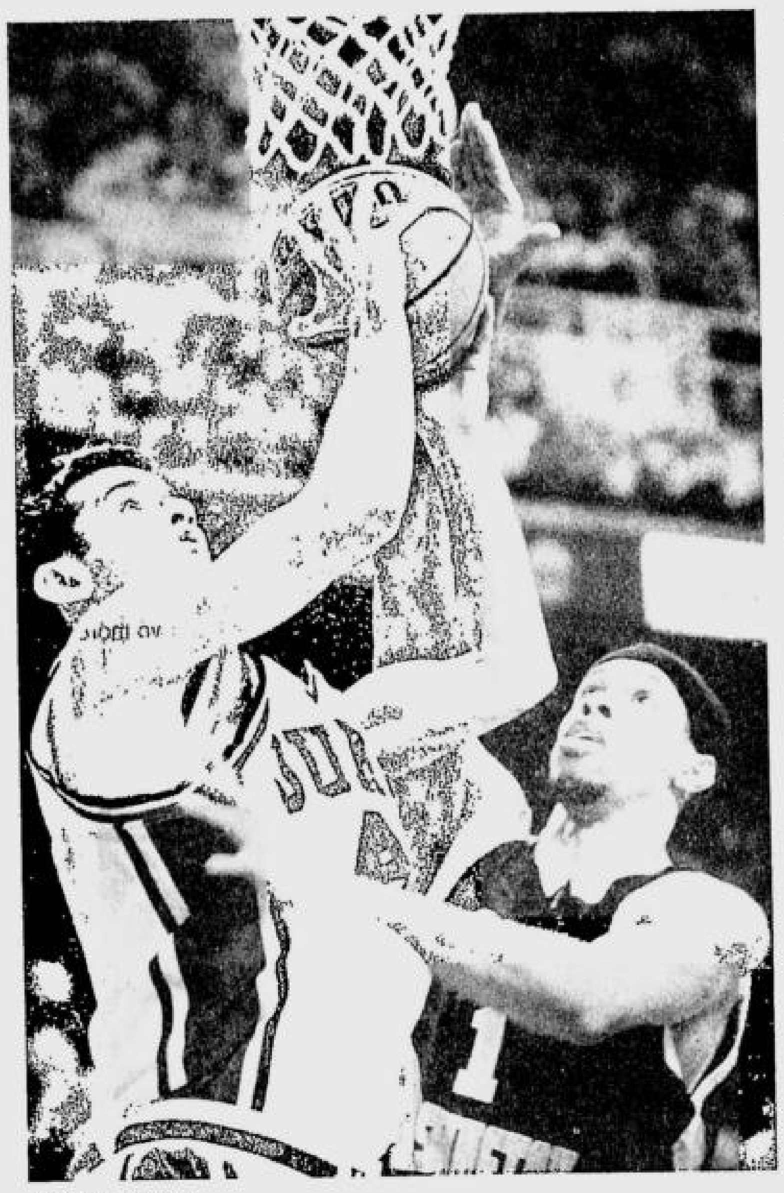
"This is a revolutionary team," Cuban outfielder Frederich Cepeda said. "Baseball is not judged by the price of the athletes but the heart of the people."

The Cubans advanced to the final of an international tournament for the 37th time in a row, a streak that includes titles in 19 of 20 World Cups and three of four Olympics. Cuba last finished outside the top two at the 1951 World Cup.

"The world has been waiting for this day," Cuba's Yoandy Garlobo said. "We've done it not only for the world but for Cuba, to show the world baseball is baseball."

US major league millionaires were ousted in the second round, a humbling 2-1 loss Thursday to Mexico sending surprised Japan into the semifinals instead. *AFP*

COMMON MYTHS ABOUT NATURAL HAIR RESTORATION
Hair transplantation has an unnatural *doll's hair.*
BEFORE
AFTER
Thanks to recent medical advancements, hair transplants are more natural looking today than ever possible. Andrew G. Pineda, M.D. a full-time Beverly Hills trained hair transplant specialist, utilizes multilinear mono grafts to create the most natural looking hairlines possible. We can reconstruct old *"dolls hair"* transplant to make it look natural.
Live interview with Dr. Pineda on Damayan March 20, 2006 at 1p.m. PTV 4
A. Pineda Medical Clinic
Suite 612 Medical Towers Makati, Rufino Street
Legaspi Village, Makati City
MANILA 8130691 • DAVAO 2212682
www.pinedahair.com



DAREDEVIL
Duke Blue Devil JJ Reddick (left) drives hard for a difficult undergoal stab against George Washington's Omar Williams in their NCAA match Saturday in Greensboro. The Blue Devils won the game, 74-61, behind the team-high 20 points of Reddick to advance to the Sweet 16. AP

Heat survive listless Wade

NEW YORK—DWYANE WADE SCORED 13 OF HIS TEAM-HIGH 15 points from the foul line as the Miami Heat edged the Chicago Bulls, 85-84, on Saturday, extending their win streak to four games.

Shaquille O'Neal and Antoine Walker each added 13 for the red-hot Heat, who have won 14 of their last 15 games.

Luol Deng scored 19 points and 10 rebounds while Kirk Hinrich had 15 points in the loss for the Bulls.

Wade, who had averaged over 34 points for his last five games, came out stone cold against the Bulls, going just 1-for-8 from the floor, but could not miss from the foul line.

The Heat needed every single point in a seesaw contest that remained tight from the opening tip-off to the final buzzer.

Miami held a wafer-thin 48-47 lead at the intermission and carried the same one-point margin into the final 12 minutes.

The Heat started the final quarter with an 8-3 run to nose in front but watched the Bulls respond with a 10-0 run of their own to take the lead 81-77.

Gary Payton put Miami in front for good when he dropped one of two attempts from the foul line with just over two minutes to play and the Heat held on to take the win.

In Charlotte, Richard Hamilton potted a game high 23 points and Chauncey Billups added 20 points and nine assists to lead the Detroit Pistons past the Bobcats, 108-103.

After an upset loss to the lowly New York Knicks on Friday, the league-leading Pistons were once again far from sharp but double figure efforts from six players were enough to earn them a third win in four games.

Tayshaun Prince contributed 18 points to the Pistons cause while Rasheed Wallace helped out with 16 points and seven rebounds and Antonio McDyess added 11 and Ben Wallace added 10.

Primoz Brezec had 20 points and seven boards for the Bobcats, who absorbed their fourth straight defeat. *Reuters*

COMPLETE NBA RESULTS: Denver 109, New Orleans 94; San Antonio 92, Houston 77; Milwaukee 97, Portland 93

- **NBA ON TV:**

Solar Sports—Miami vs New York, 8:30 a.m. (8 p.m. replay)

RPN-9—LA Lakers vs Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.

MICROVAN
(02) 984-0278/79
MEGA SALE!
on March 31, 2006 • Starts at 8:30 a.m. sharp.

MALAYSIAN GP

Fisichella leads Renault's 1-2 finish

RENAULT driver Giancarlo Fisichella of Italy celebrates as he crosses the finish line to win the Malaysian F1 Grand Prix in Sepang, near Kuala Lumpur. REUTERS

SEPANG, MALAYSIA—RENAULT'S GIANCarlo Fisichella won the Malaysian Grand Prix Sunday, his third win in Formula One.

In second was teammate Fernando Alonso, 4.5 seconds behind, while Honda's Jenson Button took third in the 56-lap race at the 5.5-kilometer (3.4-mile) Sepang International Circuit.

Juan Pablo Montoya in a McLaren-Mercedes was fourth.

Fisichella has previously won at the rain-shortened Brazilian Grand Prix in 2003—a victory initially given to Kimi Raikkonen—and last year's Australian race.

Alonso and Michael Schumacher, who share the last six world championships between them, started seventh and 14th on the grid after engine changes shuffled the starting lineup after qualifying.

Ferrari's Schumacher had the fourth fastest time in qualifying but dropped down the starting order because of an unscheduled engine change.

He finish behind teammate Felipe Massa in sixth place Sunday.

The 33-year-old Italian Fisichella led until his first pit stop on the 17th lap when he was the first of the major contenders to pit. By the 25th lap, he was back in first with Button second and Alonso third.

The second set of stops for fuel and tires started on the 38th lap, again with Fisichella and Button together.

Alonso stayed out five laps longer, and less fuel and a lightning fast stop allowed the Spaniard to go past Button into second.

Fisichella led by almost 12 seconds at that point over Alonso.

Massa, Ferrari's second driver, started on the back row because of an engine change and came in fifth less than a second ahead of Schumacher.

Jacques Villeneuve, in a BMW-Sauber, was seventh and Toyota's Ralf Schumacher, who also started on the last row, was eighth.

Raikkonen, the 2003 Malaysian GP winner, had a race that lasted less than 30 seconds. He had trouble handling the car from the start and was soon found himself off the track and crashing into the wall. After starting last and finishing third at Bahrain, he was sixth on the grid here. *AP*

Sharapova bags 11th title

INDIAN WELLS, CALIFORNIA—MARIA Sharapova was rock solid in the wind against Elena Dementieva in the Pacific Life Open title match.

The 18-year-old Sharapova, her blonde pony tail whipping in the gusts, defeated Dementieva, 6-1, 6-2, Saturday.

In the men's semifinals, No. 12 James Blake beat No. 2 Rafael Nadal, 7-5, 6-3, to move into the championship match against two-time defending champion Roger Federer. No. 1 Federer cruised to a 6-2, 6-3 victory over Paradorn Srichaphan.

The title was the first of the year and the 11th of her career for Sharapova, the 2004 Wimbledon champion who lives in Bradenton, Florida.

After Dementieva hit still another backhand into the net on match point, Sharapova beamed, did her ballerina-like waves to the crowd, then blew kisses to the fans.

"It (the wind) was difficult for both of us," she said afterward. "A lot of balls, you didn't know where they were going, especially on the serve.

"On these kinds of days, it's not about playing great tennis; it's about finding a way to win."

Said Dementieva: "I think Maria was able to handle the situation and play with the wind better."

Sharapova dominated the match with powerful, well-placed groundstrokes that kept the 24-year-old Dementieva off-balance. *AP*

MARIA Sharapova of Russia celebrates winning match point against compatriot Elena Dementieva. AFP

'Rock' keeps heavyweight title via draw

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey—HASIM "THE Rock" Rahman remained the WBC heavyweight champion Saturday night without beating James Toney.

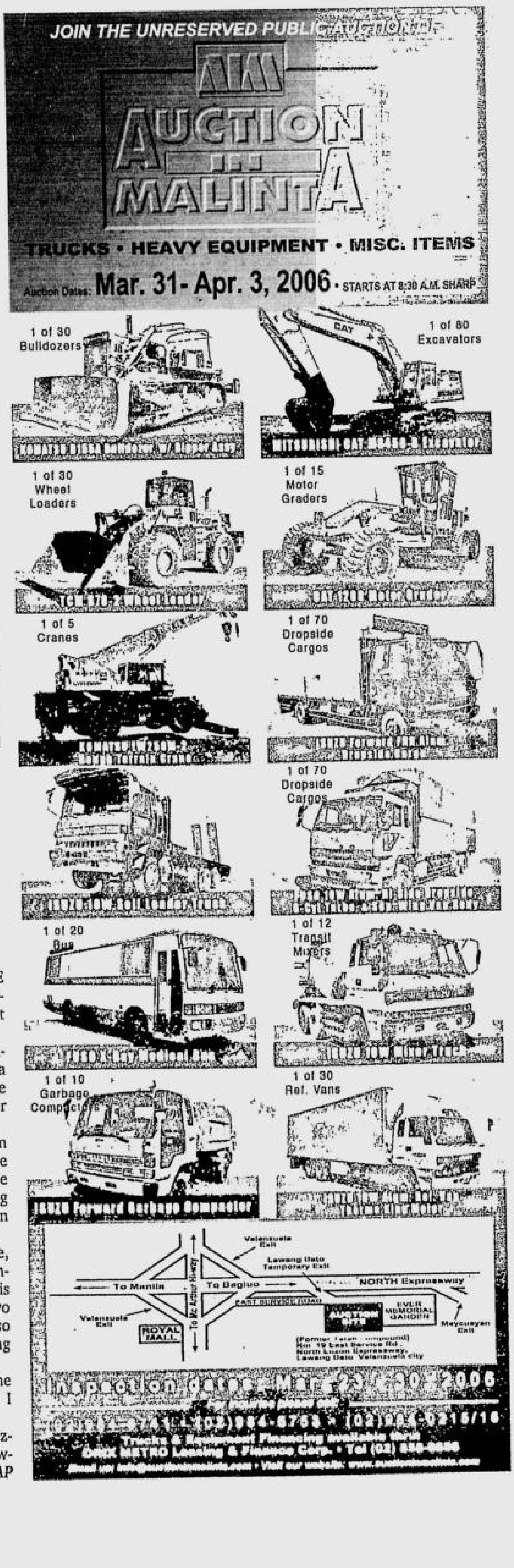
Rahman, handed the crown when Vitali Klitschko retired last year, fought Toney to a draw, a verdict booed by many fans in the crowd. So the 33-year-old Rahman has never actually won the belt in the ring.

"I can beat James Toney and I beat him tonight," Rahman insisted. "I was competitive inside. I thought it would be harder inside and it wasn't, so I was comfortable fighting him on the inside, even though the game plan (was) to use the jab."

It was one of the closest fights imaginable, with both boxers missing more than they connected, and with few flurries. Toney did his best work with right leads, including two massive ones late in the bout. But he also missed a handful of those punches, looking foolish as he swiped the air.

"I thought I won the fight, but that's the way boxing goes," Toney said. "At times I thought he was afraid of me."

Judges Nobuaki Uratani and Tom Kaczmarek each had it 114-114, while John Stewart saw a Rahman rout, 117-111. *AP*



JOIN THE UNRESERVED PUBLIC AUCTION!
AM
AUCTION IN MALINTA
TRUCKS • HEAVY EQUIPMENT • MISC. ITEMS
Auction Dates: Mar. 31 - Apr. 3, 2006 • STARTS AT 8:30 A.M. SHARP
1 of 30 Bulldozers
1 of 80 Excavators
1 of 30 Wheel Loaders
1 of 15 Motor Graders
1 of 5 Cranes
1 of 70 Dropside Cargos
1 of 70 Dropside Cargos
1 of 20 Bus
1 of 12 Transit Mixers
1 of 10 Garbage Compactors
1 of 30 Ref. Vans
ISUZU Forward Garbage Compactor
Inspection dates: Mar 23 - 30, 2006
(02) 984-6763 • (02) 984-0215/16
Trucks & Equipment Financing available thru:
ORIX METRO Leasing & Finance Corp.

Gorres decisions Thai foe, claims OPBF crown

By Salven L. Lagumbay, *Contributor*

MANDAUE CITY—Z "THE DREAM" GORRES dominated Waenpetch Chuwatana of Thailand throughout to score a lopsided unanimous decision victory and claim the vacant Oriental and Pacific Boxing Federation super flyweight title in the main event of a 10-bout card here.

Gorres used his superior skills to thwart Chuwatana's surges en route to a 118-109, 119-107, 120-106 win.

The win improved Gorres' record to 23-1-1 with 12 KOs. It also earned him a fight against a still undetermined foe in the May 20 undercard of the Marco Antonio Barrera-Rocky Juarez showdown at the Staples Center in California.

Chuwatana had vowed to go after Gorres' belly but failed to inflict damage as the shifty Filipino frustrated the Thai with lateral movements.

A knockdown scored by Gorres in the third round, and the one-point deduction assessed on Chuwatana in the eighth for excessive holding made matters worse for the Thai brawler.

After winning the first two rounds, Gorres unleashed his feared left uppercut late in the third, sending Chuwatana on all fours.

HANDY WIN: Z Gorres proves his worth.

In the main supporting bout, Rex "Wakee" Salud-protegé Jojo Bardon bucked a knockdown in the second round to score a split decision victory over Rocky Fuentes of the ALA Stable.

Meanwhile, WBO Asia Pacific super-featherweight champ Czar Amonsot won by unanimous decision over another Thai, Dechco Bankluaygym.

Other results: AJ Banal (ALA Stable) stopped Dechapol Bankluaygym in the opening round; Robert Allanic decisioned Robert Rubillar; Rey Caltom (ALA Stable) knocked out Joy Adrian in the opening round; Glen Mascampo decisioned Nori Iwatani; Frank Albia decisioned Joe Galamiton; Nic Banal decisioned Rolly Baclayo; and Ninolito Jalnaiz TKO'd Noel Acasio in the second round.

Pinoy Cockers derby today

SEVENTY FIGHTS ARE ON TAP IN THE PINOY COCKers Association of the Philippines 5-cock derby starting at 5 p.m. today at the Makati Coliseum with B-Meg Derby Ace as sponsor. The Jerby entry of Jun Pascual topped the fifth PCAP derby last March 6, while Jake Macasaet's San Vicente Ferrer entry finished second. Macasaet regained the Cocker of the Year race lead with 16 points, followed by Lito Orillaza (Golden Syca, 14.5); Lito Roque (Ika Mae, 14); William Co (Spencer, 14); Jimmy Yasay (Rooster Wild, 13.5); Matt Bitanga (Golden Circle I, 13.5) and Kay Akino entry, 13.5.

SPORTSWATCH

150 fights in SJC finals

THE "UNANG HIRIT NO ENTRY FEE 4-COCK DERBY" championship round starts at 2 p.m. today featuring more than 150 fights and with Sagupaan Complexor 3000 as sponsor. Host Aba Badiola said the winners stand to take home P1.2 million. Badiola, in cooperation with SJC management, will also present the "Fastest Win One-Cock Ulutan" on April 3, where five brand new Honda XRM motorcycles are at stake. For inquiries, call 0917-8264018, 725-6563 or 725-5369.

ALL NEW
CARRYBOY®
The Name of Quality and Design
SUPER CARRYBOY SPORT LID
2nd Generation Pick-up Bed Covers
GSR
Integrated Sport Lid and Roll Bar
NO DRILLING
Top-up Motorized Super Lid
SM
Full Open
Open
Close
SLX
Perfect Match SLX Super Lid with CB706 Roll Bar
CARRYBOY PHILIPPINES INC. Sole Authorized Distributor of Genuine Accessories by Carryboy Thailand
No. 94 Banawe corner Macopa Sts., Quezon City Surf our website at www.carryboyphil.com
Visit our Showroom or call:
740-0525 or 30

THUNDERBIRD®
Power 2 Trio
WITH OVER A MILLION WORTH OF PRIZES!!!

PROMO MECHANICS

1. Buy the following products: Thunderbird Successor, Thunderbird Baby Stag Booster, Thunderbird Stag Developer, Thunderbird Multi-Grain Concentrate or Conditioner, Thunderbird Highlander Maintenance, Thunderbird Enertone, Thunderbird Hi-Protein Power Pellets, Thunderbird Platinum, Thunderbird Bexan XP, Thunderbird Baxidil, Thunderbird Vermigo and Vetracin Gold Capsule.
2. An entry is composed of one (1) empty pack of any Thunderbird Power Feeds, or one (1) empty box of Bexan XP, or two (2) blister packs of Thunderbird Vermigo, or four (4) foil packs of Thunderbird Baxidil/Vetracin Gold Capsule, and attach a piece of paper with your name, birthdate, address, phone no., signature and name of store. Enclosed in a legal size envelope.
3. Entries can be dropped in drop boxes at designated stores within your area, or you may also send your entries to:

Thunderbird Power Trio Promo II
c/o Sarimanok Feeds Company, Inc.
86 Mayflower St., Mandaluyong City

4. This is a nationwide promo covering areas of the eighteen (18) business developers from Sarimanok Feeds Company, Inc.
5. All employees of Sarimanok/Univet, Unilab, hired agencies and relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity and affinity are disqualified from joining the promo.
6. Power Trio winners can choose from the following bloodlines: Sweater, Roundhead, Kelso, and Hatch.
7. In the monthly draw, there will be 108 winners and 423 consolation prizes to be given away.

1st Prize- *Power Trio*
2nd Prize- *Conditioning Showcase*
3rd Prize- *Breeding Showcase*
Consolation Prize- *12 Gift Packs*

8. In the grand draw, there will be a total of 40 winners from all areas and 192 consolation prizes will be given away.

1st Prize- Power Trio
2nd Prize- 21" Sony Colored TV
3rd Prize- Sony Mini-Component
4th Prize- Conditioning Showcase
5th Prize- Breeding Showcase
Consolation Prize- 24 Gift Packs

9. Schedule for draws are as follows:

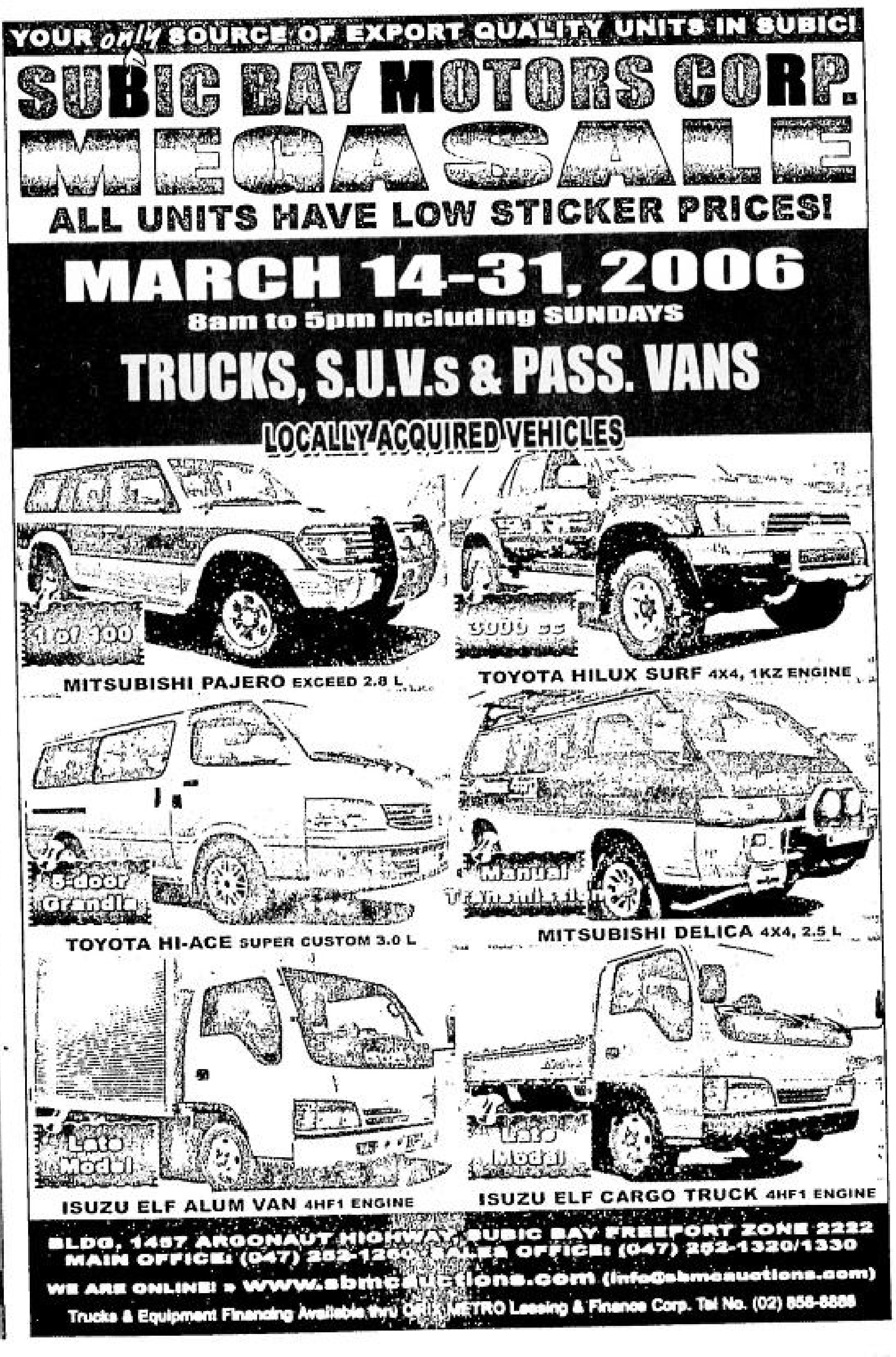
1st monthly draw- May 5, 2006
2nd monthly draw- June 9, 2006
Final Draw- July 7, 2006 (86 Mayflower St., Mandaluyong City)

10. A BFAD representative will be present during the monthly and grand draws.
11. The 1st prize winners' store partner will get P5,000 worth of Thunderbird products in the monthly draws, and P10,000 worth of Thunderbird products in the grand draw.
12. Non-winning entries will automatically qualify for the final draw.
13. Winners will be called and/or notified via mail.
14. Promo starts March 1, 2006 and ends on June 30, 2006.

Individuals below 18 years old are not qualified to join.

Winners will be announced in Tukaan, Sundays, 12nn at IBC 13

Per DOH-BFAD Permit No. 0275 Series of 2006.



YOUR only SOURCE OF EXPORT QUALITY UNITS IN SUBIC!
SUBIC BAY MOTORS CORP.
MEGASALE
ALL UNITS HAVE LOW STICKER PRICES!
MARCH 14-31, 2006
8am to 5pm including SUNDAYS
TRUCKS, S.U.V.s & PASS. VANS
LOCALLY ACQUIRED VEHICLES
1 of 100
MITSUBISHI PAJERO EXCEED 2.8 L
3000 cc
TOYOTA HILUX SURF 4X4, 1KZ ENGINE
5-door Grandia
TOYOTA HI-ACE SUPER CUSTOM 3.0 L
Manual
MITSUBISHI DELICA 4X4, 2.5 L
Late Model
ISUZU ELF ALUM VAN 4HF1 ENGINE
Late Model
ISUZU ELF CARGO TRUCK 4HF1 ENGINE
BLDG. 1457 ARGONAUT HIGHWAY, SUBIC BAY FREEPORT ZONE 2222
MAIN OFFICE: (047) 252-1260 SALES OFFICE: (047) 252-1320/1330
WE ARE ONLINE! » www.sbmcauctions.com (info@sbmcauctions.com)
Trucks & Equipment Financing Available thru ORIX METRO Leasing & Finance Corp. Tel No. (02) 858-8888

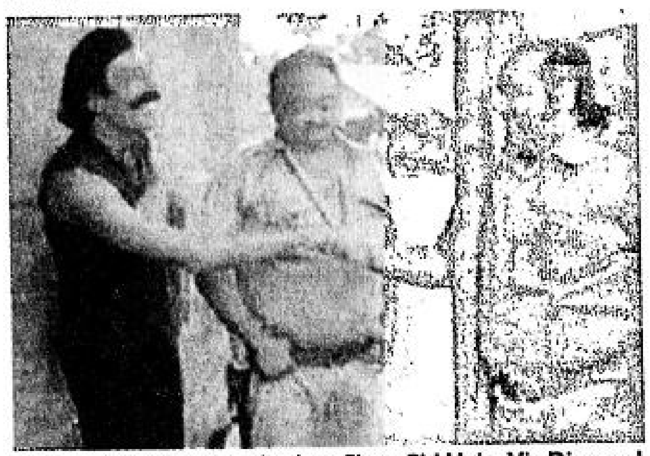
Will your new car come with P1,000,000?
Fast Car, Fast Cash
AUTO LOAN PROMO
Apply Now.
Please see Posters and Flyers for full details, or visit any PSBank or Metrobank branch.
You're in good hands with METROBANK
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4314, Series of 2006.
PSBank
PHILIPPINE SAVINGS BANK
A METROBANK SUBSIDIARY
Prizes will be in the form of manager's checks.

Editor **Emmie G. Velarde**

ENTERTAINMENT

Text us your feedback: inquirer ent name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph



HIGH-CONCEPT, low-budget films: Sid Haig, Vic Diaz and Subas Herrero in "Big Bird Cage" (above); Diaz and Alona Alegre in "Black Mama" (right).

An A for RP-made B movies

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

UCLA professor on movies that told RP history in an 'indirect' way

IF YOU ASK UCLA PROFESSOR Michael Hawkins, Tony Falcon, Pinoy cowboys and women-in-prison flicks are worthy subjects for research and discourse.

In a recent lecture at the University of the Philippines Film Institute in Diliman, Hawkins presented his findings on what he called "women-in-prison" film genre.

To "exploit cheap but skilled labor and the exotic locale," B-movie producer Roger Corman shot such potboilers here and hired Filipino artists for work both on and off cam in the early 1970s.

Hawkins is currently writing his Ph.D. dissertation on the subject for the University of California in Los Angeles and has interviewed Corman and director Jack Hill, as well as Filipino producer Cirio H. Santiago and National Artist for Film Eddie Romero.

Romero is credited as executive producer on Hill's "The Big Doll House," released in 1971. That same year, another National Artist for Film, Gerardo de Leon, directed "Women in Cages" (locally shown as "Play Pen"), which

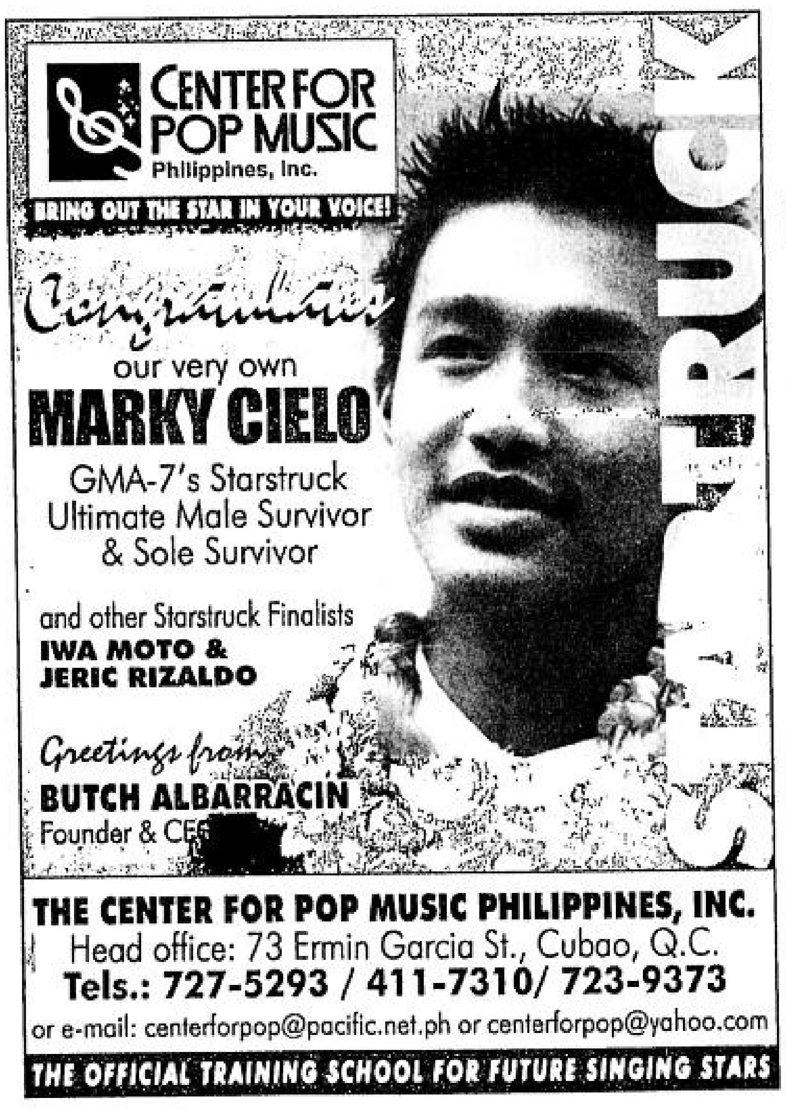
AN A/ A2-4

Join the Marian Pilgrimage
Lourdes & Fatima
Rome, Portugal, France, Spain
w/
FR. OLEGARIO COMMELERAN OSB
PILGRIMAGE CHAPLAIN
MAY 30 - JUNE 16, 2006
Pls. contact
ALICE - 8290537 / 09275542951
EDER - 8294527 / 09163400504

Is your favorite movie showing on TV tonight?

Check out the PIZZA classification in the

DPC
YELLOW PAGES



CENTER FOR POP MUSIC
Philippines, Inc.
BRING OUT THE STAR IN YOUR VOICE!
Congratulates
our very own
MARKY CIELO
GMA-7's Starstruck
Ultimate Male Survivor
& Sole Survivor
and other Starstruck Finalists
IWA MOTO &
JERIC RIZALDO
Greetings from
BUTCH ALBARRACIN
Founder & CE[illegible]
THE CENTER FOR POP MUSIC PHILIPPINES, INC.
Head office: 73 Ermin Garcia St., Cubao, Q.C.
Tels.: 727-5293 / 411-7310/ 723-9373
or e-mail: centerforpop@pacific.net.ph or centerforpop@yahoo.com
THE OFFICIAL TRAINING SCHOOL FOR FUTURE SINGING STARS

All the movies you want to see on the big screen
NOW SHOWING at the Star Group of Malls

starmall
EDSA SHAW
Tel. No. 726 6150
3: Hostel
4: Under Renovation
5: House of Fury

METROPOLIS STAR
ALABANG
Tel No. 850 4285
1: The Dark
2: Hostel
3: Vendetta
4: Fearless

DOLBY DIGITAL
Everyday Family Day at StarMalls!
Every Tuesdays Stand-Up Comedy, Every Fridays Live Acoustic Bands at Cuba Libre Bar Starmall Edsa
Mondays to Thursdays Live Bands, Every Fridays Stand-Up Comedy at Mark's KTV Metropolis
Barbie Almabis (Mar. 17) Body Heat Bikini Summit (Mar. 25) River Maya (Mar. 26) Metropolis Alabang
Barbie Almabis (Mar. 25) Starmall Edsa

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX
Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5) Quezon City
For inquiries, call
687-6963
GUARANTEED SEATS
MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

1 SHAGGY DOG
1:20, 3:45, 6:10, 8:30, 11:00
GP

2 V FOR VENDETTA
11:20, 2:20, 5:20, 8:20, 11:00
R-13

3 SHE'S THE MAN
12:35, 3:05, 5:35, 8:05, 10:35
PG-13

4 HOSTEL
1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 8:40, 11:00
R-18

Body & Face
MENDEZ MEDICAL GROUP
Weigh Less Center
ALWAYS FIRST IN GIVING YOU WHITER SKIN
SKIN WHITENING INJECTABLE
Belinda Bright
Roces 373-3365
Mega Mall 635-2577
SM Fairview 937-7453
Glorietta II 894-1741
Permit #1423 Series of 2006

GREENHILLS CINEMAS
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA
THEATRE MALL
GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!
NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 1 V FOR VENDETTA
10:40, 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00
R13
CINEMA 2 HOSTEL
10:50, 1:05, 3:20, 5:35, 7:50, 10:10
R18
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX
PROMENADE
GREENHILLS
...a dinertainment for all!
NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 3 SHE'S THE MAN
11:35, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20
PG13
CINEMA 4 SHAGGY DOG
10:40, 1:00, 3:20, 5:40, 8:00, 10:20
GP
CINEMA 5 V FOR VENDETTA
11:15, 2:05, 5:00
R13
TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. FOR CINEMA INQUIRIES, CALL: 722 4496.

MUSIC MUSEUM

MARCH 30, 2006	RICO J. PUNO	9:00PM
MARCH 31, 2006	RAYMOND LAUCHENGCO	8:00PM

TEATRINO
PROMENADE GREENHILLS

EVERY MONDAY MARCH 23, 24, 25, 30, 31, 2006	TEATRINO DANCE NIGHT WERE STILL HOT THE MUSICAL FOR INQUIRIES CALL 722 4532 LOC. 116	7:00PM 9:00PM

FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL : 721-6726 OR 721-0635

Shop
& Chill
& Fight
& Love
& Bite
& Dance
& Read
& Sing
& Sip..

At Greenhills Shopping Center, choose to live and live to choose. Indulge in neverending-pleasures in over 2,000 stores and establishments. Truly, the best shopping experience only gets better.

SHOPPING CENTER 75
Shop & Live!
www.greenhills.com.ph

Proud history of producing political films

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

OUR RECENT COLUMN ON THE RISE OF political films in global cinema elicited reactions from a number of readers. Their comments were pretty similar, revolving around the hope that Filipino filmmakers would also deal with reality, instead of the fantasies and roseate teen romances that they have been dishing out lately.

> 'Many issues are still festering'

Fact is, Philippine cinema has a proud history of producing political films. Important films like "Daigdig ng mga Api" and "The Moises Padilla Story" presaged the peak of political filmmaking in the '70s and '80s, when **Lino Brocka** hit hard with scorchers like "Bayan Ko: Kapit sa Patalim" and "Orapronobis."

Some say that political filmmaking here dipped when martial law ended and Filipino filmmakers lost an "enemy" to lash out against.

Truth to tell, however, Ferdinand Marcos may be gone, but most everybody else is still around and many social and political issues are still festering and in need of being dramatized and lanced onscreen.

So, what's lacking isn't opportunity, but many of our filmmakers' will. The bald truth is that quite a number of them have become too comfortable with compromise, so they've lost much of their passion and conviction that their films can affect how their viewers think and act.

Even our newer digital filmmakers generally eschew the political mode, choosing to focus instead on "experimental" romps and personal stories.

This can change only if our filmmakers remind themselves that art is supposed to be, not a soporific, but an irritant. It's charged with the necessary task of holding a mirror up to viewers' faces, so they can see how their reality truly looks, warts and all.

To the local movie industry's embarrassment, no feature film has yet been made on **Ninoy Aquino**, on the Edsa revolution and many other major political events in the nation's unfolding history.

On the other hand, we're grateful for the strong political films that have been made, despite the industry's largely escapist and trivializing bent—"Bayaning Third World," "Bagong Buwan," "Ebolusyon ng Isang Pamilyang Pilipino," etc.

'Tristan and Isolde'

"TRISTAN and Isolde" sets its story among the tribes struggling for control over their territories following the fall of Rome.

In one of the villages, Tristan (**James Franco**) is raised by Lord Marke (**Rufus Sewell**), who lost his hand while protecting the boy during the Irish raid that killed Tristan's family.

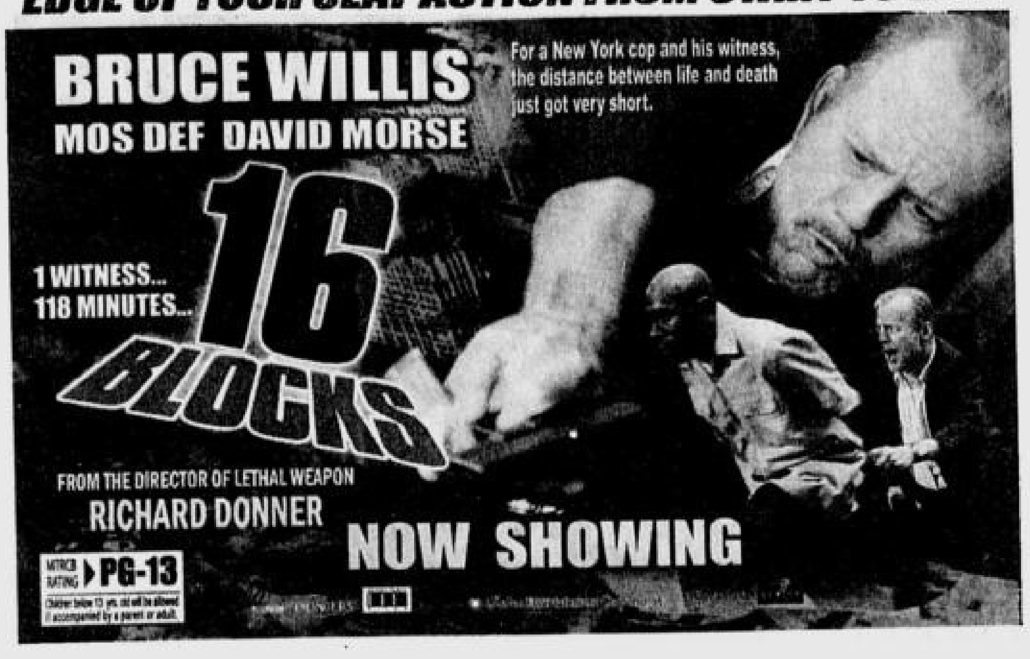
With Tristan by his side, Marke believes he can unify his people and rid England of Irish rule. But Tristan harbors a terrible secret.

Wounded and left dead after battle, he is nursed back to health by Isolde (**Sophia Myles**), a mysterious Irish beauty who hides him from her father King Donnchadh's forces. But their passionate affair is cut short when Tristan is impelled to return to England, not knowing if he will see Isolde again.

A tale of epic battles, royal intrigue and timeless passion, "Tristan and Isolde" is a longtime dream project of executive producers **Tony** and **Ridley Scott**.

The famous filmmakers are fascinated with the myth of Tristan and Isolde that originated from a Celtic legend because it is a tragic story about forbidden love, and because of the colorful, tumultuous time it took place, between the fall of the Roman Empire and the Renaissance.

The tale even predates the legend of Arthur and Guinevere in Camelot, as well as Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet." But, Ridley Scott observes, "it is so powerful, both dramatically and emotionally, that it transcends any setting or time."



#1 MOVIE OF THE WEEK!
EDGE OF YOUR SEAT ACTION FROM START TO END.
BRUCE WILLIS
MOS DEF DAVID MORSE
For a New York cop and his witness, the distance between life and death just got very short.
1 WITNESS...
118 MINUTES...
16 BLOCKS
FROM THE DIRECTOR OF LETHAL WEAPON
RICHARD DONNER
NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13

SHANG CINEPLEX

1 16 BLOCKS
MTRCB: PG-13
1:50, 4:10 LMF

2 SHAGGY DOG
MTRCB: GP
12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 10:00 LMF

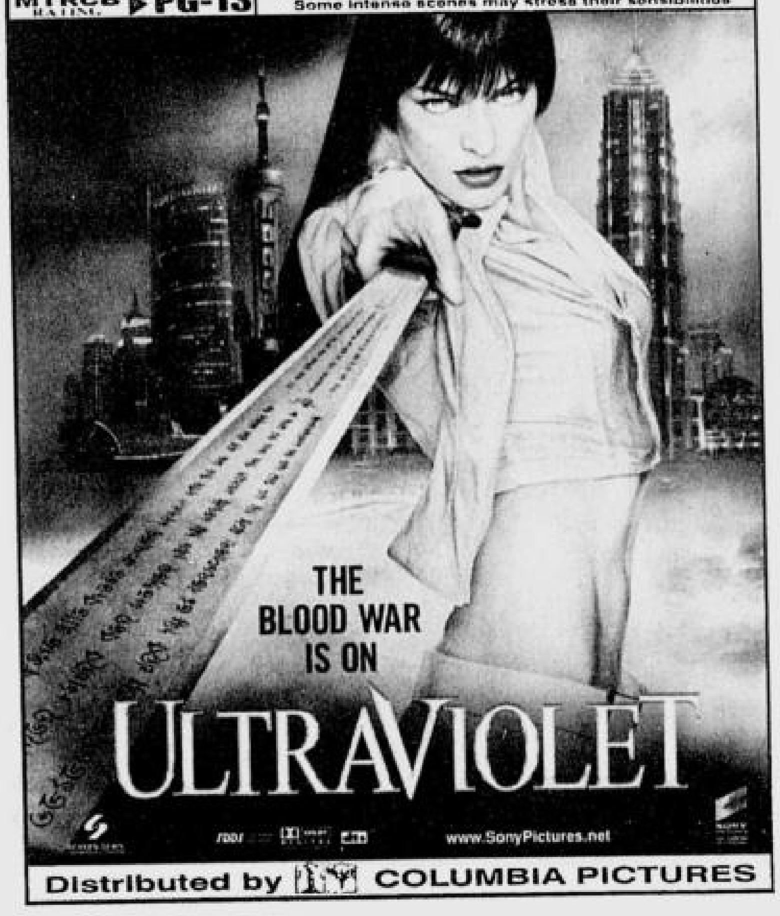
3 SHE'S THE MAN
MTRCB: PG-13
2:00, 4:25, 6:50, 9:15

4 V FOR VENDETTA
MTRCB: R-13
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00 LMF

PREMIERE THEATRE HOSTEL
MTRCB: R-18 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 740, 10:00
Movies and schedules are subject to change without prior notice

Catch the Cineplex Special
Enjoy first class entertainment at amazing prices!
Starting March 20, MONDAY & TUESDAY
special prices at P99 for cinemas 1-4 and
P120 for the premiere theater (without food and drinks)
See posters and flyers for details.

Call 633-7851, loc. 171 or 633-2227
for more details
Shangri-La Plaza



MUTANT ACTION BEGINS MARCH 22
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Parents cautioned against bringing kids age 9 & below. Some intense scenes may stress their sensibilities
THE BLOOD WAR IS ON
ULTRAVIOLET
www.SonyPictures.net
Distributed by COLUMBIA PICTURES

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION
MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING

SHANG CINEPLEX
6th floor Shangrila Plaza EDSA corner Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City
Telephone: 633 2227 / 6337851 loc. 171
1 (DOLBY) 16 BLOCKS PG13
2 (DOLBY) SHAGGY DOG GP
3 (DOLBY) SHE'S THE MAN PG13
4 (DOLBY) V FOR VENDETTA R13
PREMIERE
(DOLBY) HOSTEL R18

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72
1 (DDS) YOURS MINE & OURS
2 (SDDS) FINAL DESTINATION
3 (DTS) DATE MOVIE
4 GOLD (DTS) HOSTEL
5 GOLD (DOLBY) SHE'S THE MAN
6 GOLD (SDDS) SHAGGY DOG
7 GOLD (DOLBY) V FOR VENDETTA
8 (DOLBY STEREO) FEARLESS
9 (DOLBY STEREO) HOUSE OF FURY
10 (DOLBY STEREO) 16 BLOCKS

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City)
tel 687.6963 or 72
1 (DOLBY) SHAGGY DOG
2 (DOLBY) V FOR VENDETTA
3 (DOLBY) SHE'S THE MAN
4 (DOLBY) HOSTEL

CINEMA 2000
Movie Theatres of the New Millenium

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 THE NEW WORLD
2 (DTS) AEON FLUX
3 (DOLBY) V FOR VENDETTA
4 HOSTEL

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel. (049) 4111146
1 HOSTEL
2 (DOLBY) AEON FLUX
3 (DTS) V FOR VENDETTA
4 TIGER BLADE

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771
1 FEARLESS
2 MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA
3 (DOLBY) AEON FLUX

Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729
1 CRY WOLF
2 YOURS MINE & OURS
3 (DOLBY) FEARLESS
4 (DTS) BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Plaridel) tel (044) 795.3320
1 HOSTEL
2 16 BLOCKS
3 (DOLBY) DATE MOVIE / SYRIANA

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Gapan)
1 FEARLESS
2 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE

CINEMA 2000
Cinema 2000 Waltermart Makati
Waltermart Center, Chino Roces Ave. cor. Antonio Arnaiz Pio del Pilar, Makati City
Tel 816.4214 / 816.4216
1 V FOR VENDETTA - R13
2 SHAGGY DOG - GP
3 YOURS MINE & OURS - GP
4 HOSTEL - R18

Blue Wave MARQUINTON
Sumulong Highway cor. Mayor Gil Fernando Street, Sto. Niño, Marikina City tel. 9341927
1 (DOLBY) SHAGGY DOG
2 (DOLBY) HOSTEL
3 (DOLBY) V FOR VENDETTA
4 (DOLBY) RESERVED

SUPER CINERAMA
Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
tel 7334228
1 (DOLBY) V FOR VENDETTA
2 HOUSE OF FURY
3 SANDAKOT NA KALIGAYAHAN
4 FEARLESS
5 HOSTEL

starmall EDSA-SHAW
(Mandaluyong) tel. 7266150
3 HOSTEL
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX) CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
5 HOUSE OF FURY

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong tel 533.3851 / 533.3856
1 FEARLESS
2 SANDAKOT NA KALIGAYAHAN
3 TIGER BLADE
4 RESERVED

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 833.3290 / 833.3274
1 HOSTEL
2 V FOR VENDETTA
3 SANDAKOT NA KALIGAYAHAN

metropolis star cinema
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(ALABANG) tel. 8504285, 6433994
1 THE DARK
2 FEARLESS
3 V FOR VENDETTA
4 HOSTEL

Center Mall Cinema
Baguio Center Mall, Magsaysay Avenue (Baguio City) tel (074)- (4449346)
1 V FOR VENDETTA
2 HOSTEL

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03
1 (DOLBY EX) V FOR VENDETTA
2 HOSTEL
3 (DTS EX) AEON FLUX
4 BROKE BACK MOUNTAIN

Lianas Cinema
(Pasig) tel 640.4748
1 FEARLESS
2 DISKARTE

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 (SDDS) SEX & ZEN
2 SANDAKOT NA KALIGAYAHAN
3 DAYO
4 (DTS) VISIBLE SECRET-1

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 (DOLBY) V FOR VENDETTA
2 SANDAKOT NA KALIGAYAHAN
3 (DTS) HOSTEL
4 THE NEW WORLD
5 AEON FLUX

NE Pacific Mall Cabanatuan, Telephone No. (044) 600-3025
1 FEARLESS
2 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE
3 BLOODRAYNE

Cine Nepo
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.0121
1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 (DOLBY) RESERVED
4 (DTS) RESERVED

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 AEON FLUX
2 HOSTEL
3 BROKE BACK MOUNTAIN
4 YOURS MINE & OURS

PACIFIC MALL LUCENA CINEMAGIC
Pacific Mall Lucena Tel. (042) 660-8271
★ FEARLESS
★ BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE
★ RESERVED
★ RESERVED

Cine Nepo
(Dagupan City) tel (075) 515.8469
1 MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA
2 FEARLESS
3 (DOLBY) SYRIANA
4 (DTS) CLOSE TO YOU

Centre Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 SAW-2
2 FUN W/ DICK & JANE

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029
1 BLOODRAYNE
2 SANDAKOT NA KALIGAYAHAN

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

JENNIFER LEE
RYAN EIGENMANN AVI SIWA
"Sex, lies and the video that changed their lives."
CO-ED SCANDAL

exclusive SCREENING
Robinsons Movieworld
galleria•ermita•metro east
"The Shocking Video that Rocked the Whole Country"
The Co-Ed: two girls and a boy of barely legal age are caught having sex on tape. Who are they? Why did they do it? Where are they now?
The film draws answers from the urban legends that grew around the controversial sex videos and the result is a humurous narrative with elements of mock documentary.
Leo is a 21-year old co-ed student in a prestigious college. He dreams of making and starring in his own "dirty movie" and becomes obsessed with the idea. Leo eggs her girlfriend Claire to be part of the video. She hesitates but gives in to the idea soon enough, when she finds her most compelling reason in the person of a sexy girl named Miles.
Opens MARCH 22
MTRCB Rating: R-18
upclose and personal with JENNIFER LEE
Cinema Lobby
MARCH 22 Ermita 2PM; Galleria 4PM; Metro East 6PM
MARCH 25 Metro East 2PM; Galleria 4PM; Ermita 6PM

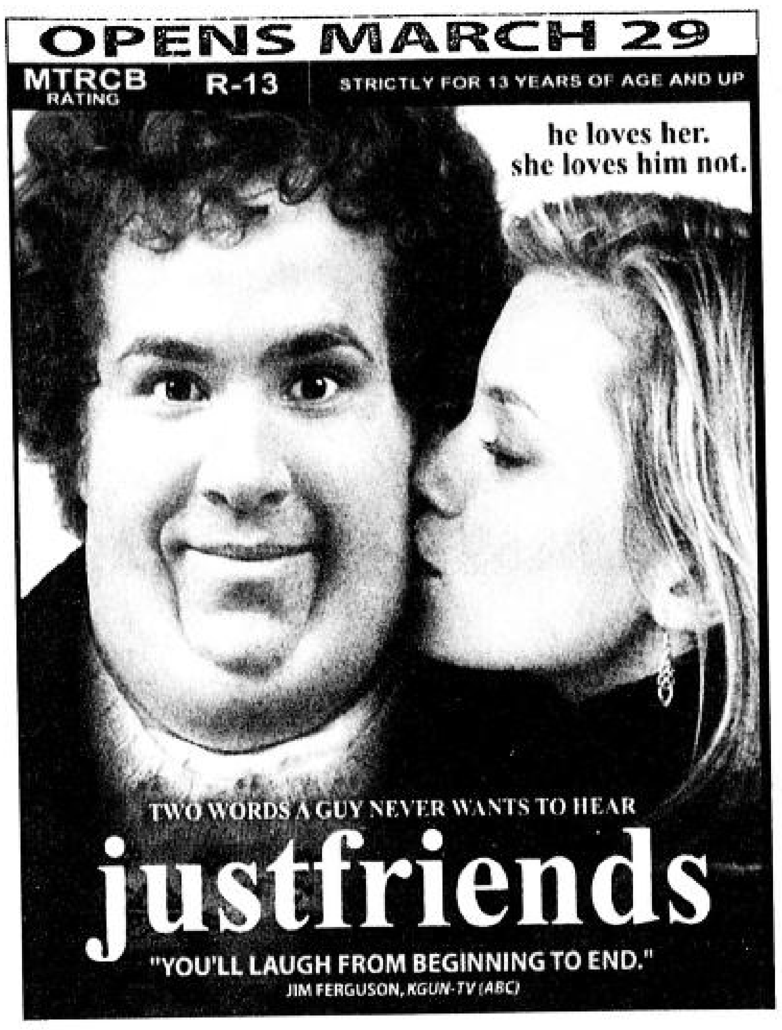
ARANETA CENTER
Gateway AliMALL FarmersPlaza
THE ONLY CINEPLEX IN THE COUNTRY Gateway CiNEPLEX*10 DOLBY DIGITAL-EX

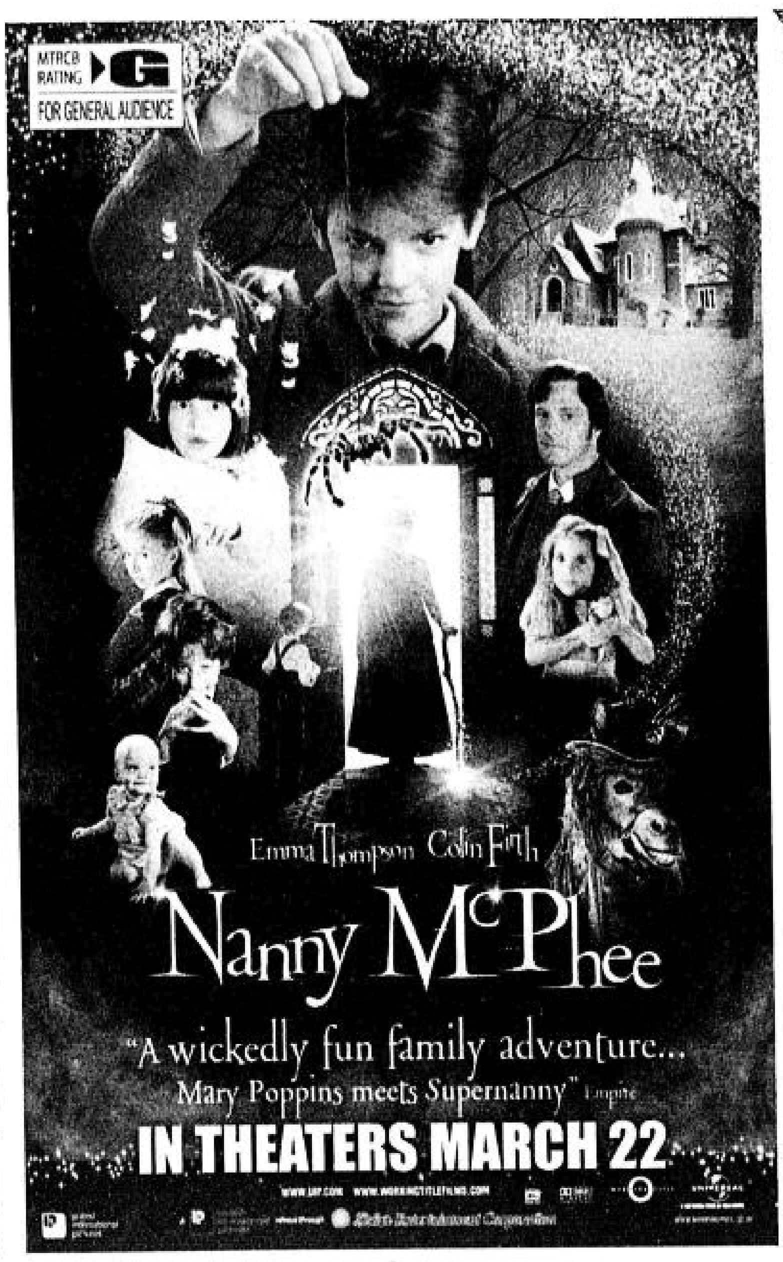
BREAKING NEWS 12:40 / 2:45	HOSTEL 1:20 / 3:25 / 5:30 / 7:35 / 9:40	V FOR VENDETTA 1:40 / 4:20 / 7:00 / 9:40	GLOBE PLATINUM CINEMA
HOUSE OF FURY 5:20 / 7:25 / 9:30	YOURS, MINE & OURS 1:30 / 3:30 / 5:30	SHAGGY DOG 12:40 / 2:55 / 5:10 / 7:25 / 9:40	V FOR VENDETTA 1:00 / 3:40 / 6:20 / 9:00
SHE'S THE MAN 1:20 / 4:00 / 6:40 / 9:20	CASANOVA 7:30 / 9:50	DATE MOVIE 1:00 / 3:10 / 5:20 / 7:30 / 9:40 16 BLOCKS 1:55 / 4:30 / 7:05 / 9:40	ONLY P120 ADMISSION GLOBE PLATINUM P249 P199

AliMALL CINEMAS

1	V FOR VENDETTA 12:00 / 2:40 / 5:20 / 8:00	2	HOSTEL 12:15 / 2:20 / 4:25 / 6:30 / 8:35	3	THE FEARLESS 12:00 / 2:05 / 4:10 / 6:15 / 8:20
4	HOUSE OF FURY 1:00 / 3:00 / 5:00 / 7:00 / 9:00	5	SHE'S THE MAN 12:35 / 3:15 / 5:55 / 8:35		DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

For ticket inquiries, please call TicketNet at 911-5555 or log on to www.ticketnet.com.ph
ARANETA COLISEUM
BAND EXPLOSION 2006
MARCH 24, FRIDAY 8 pm
MICHAEL BOLTON LIVE IN MANILA
MARCH 29, WEDNESDAY 8 pm


OPENS MARCH 29
MTRCB RATING R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP
he loves her. she loves him not.
TWO WORDS A GUY NEVER WANTS TO HEAR
justfriends
"YOU'LL LAUGH FROM BEGINNING TO END."
JIM FERGUSON, KGUN-TV (ABC)


MTRCB RATING G FOR GENERAL AUDIENCE
Emma Thompson Colin Firth
Nanny McPhee
"A wickedly fun family adventure... Mary Poppins meets Supernanny"
IN THEATERS MARCH 22

FEEDBACK

In Pia's defense

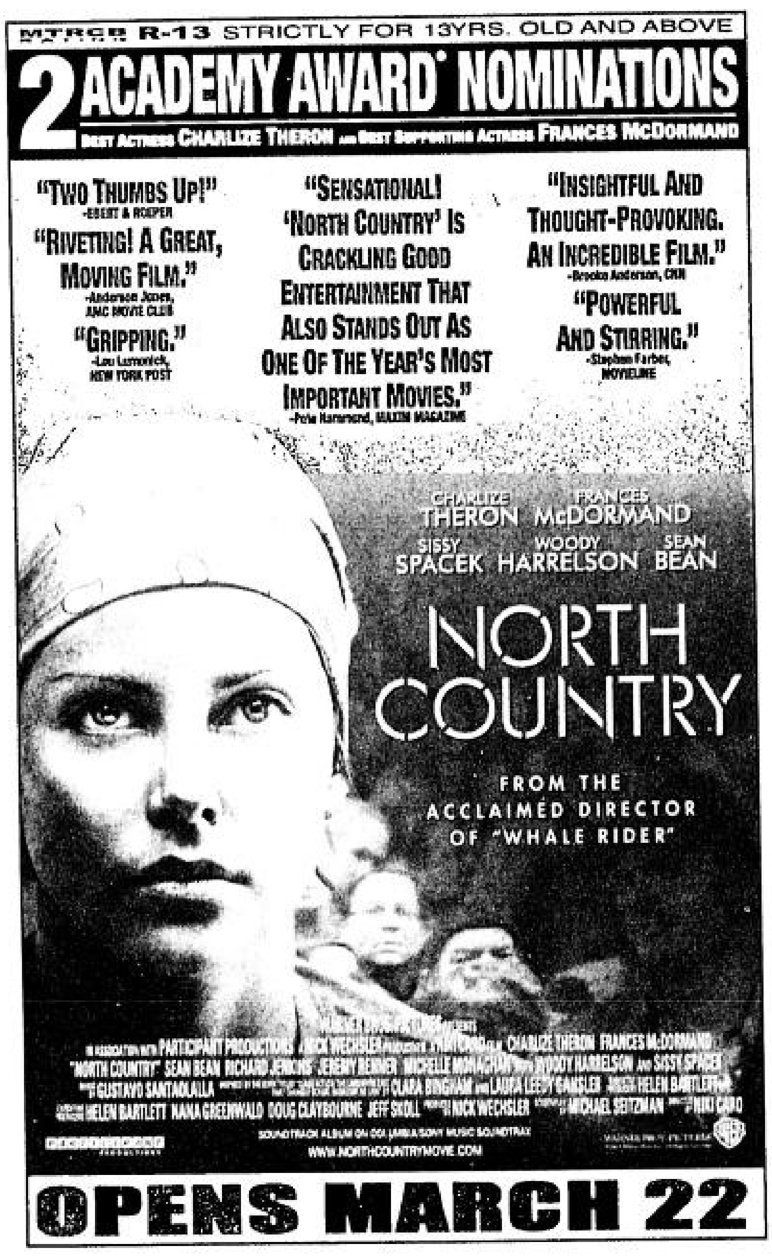
From Jack Bernstein (irote@verizon.net), USA

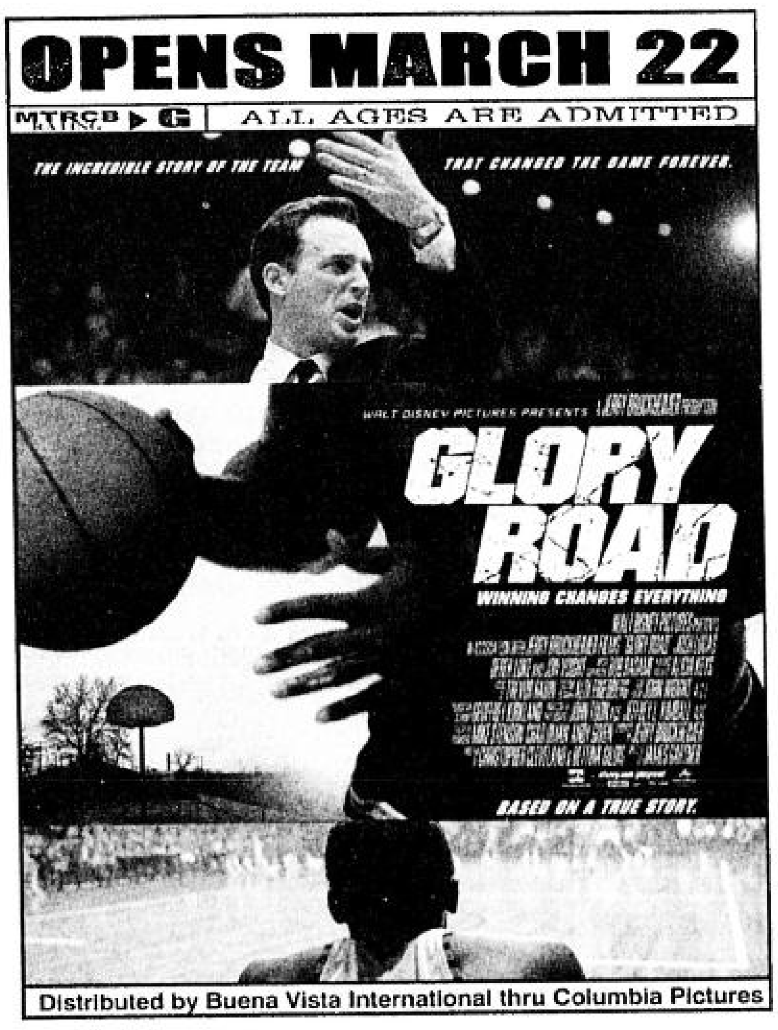
When I bumped into Pia Guanio in Las Vegas, I probably startled her. Obviously, she gets unwanted attention. Once she realized I wasn't dangerous, she posed for snapshots with me. I just can't believe she can be rude to a 12-year-old kid.

POWER PLANT
CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41

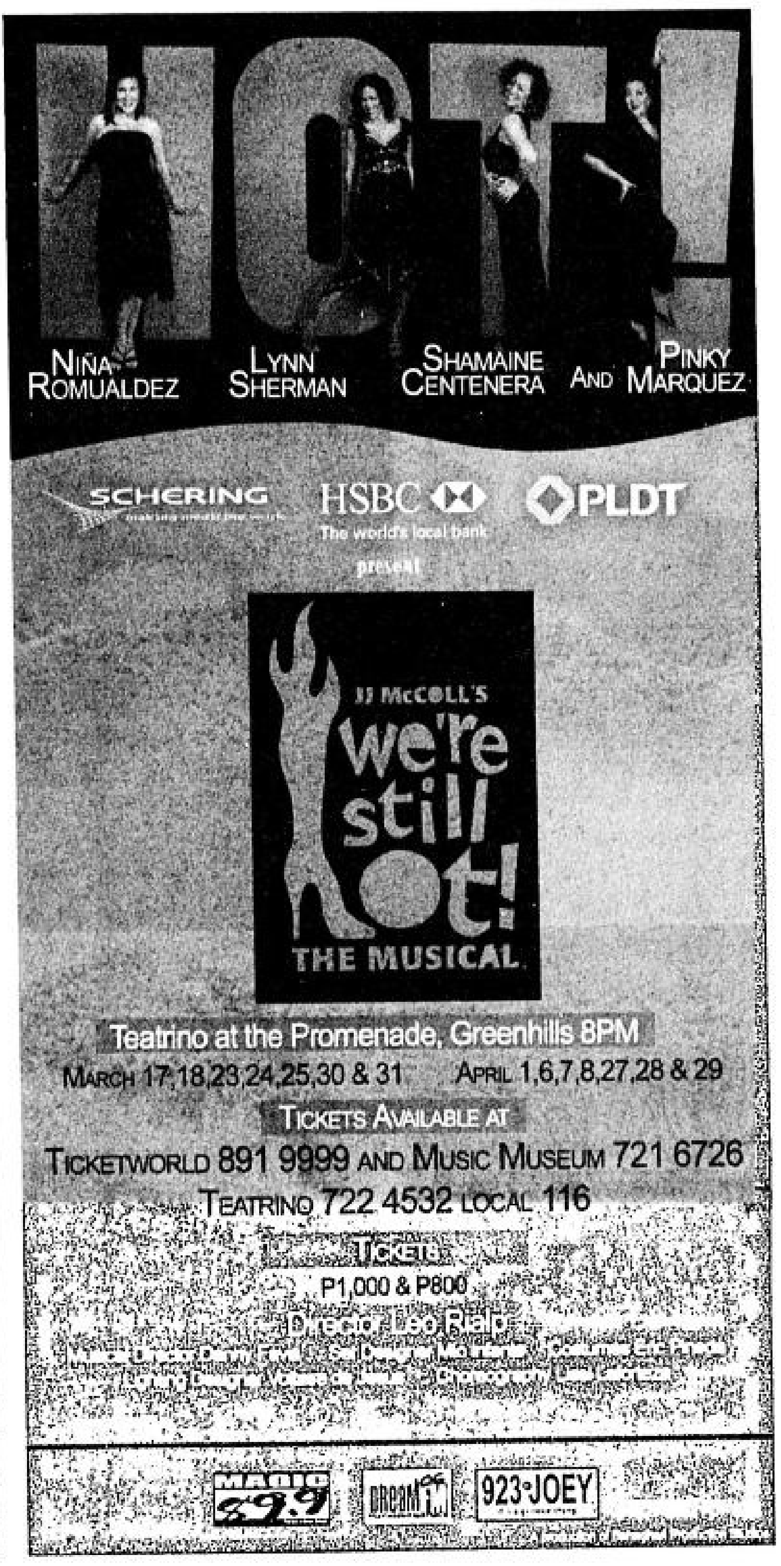
SHAGGY DOG G 1:45,3:55,6:05,8:15	CASANOVA R13 12:00,2:25	SHE'S THE MAN PG13 1:45,3:55,6:05,8:15,10:25
16 BLOCKS PG13 12:30,2:50,5:10,7:30,9:50	HOSTEL R18 1:45,3:55,6:05,8:15	V FOR VENDETTA R13 1:50,4:40,7:30,10:20

MOVIES AND SCREENING SCHEDULES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. FOR VERIFICATION CALL 898 1440-41
MATINEE P111.00 – FREE SEATING – SCREENINGS BEFORE 5:00 PM – MON. TO FRI.


MTRCB R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13YRS. OLD AND ABOVE
2 ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS
BEST ACTRESS CHARLIZE THERON AND BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS FRANCES McDORMAND
"TWO THUMBS UP!" -EBERT & ROEPER
"RIVETING! A GREAT, MOVING FILM." -Anderson Jones, AMC MOVIE CLUB
"GRIPPING." -Lou Lumenick, NEW YORK POST
"SENSATIONAL! 'NORTH COUNTRY' IS CRACKLING GOOD ENTERTAINMENT THAT ALSO STANDS OUT AS ONE OF THE YEAR'S MOST IMPORTANT MOVIES." -Pete Hammond, MAXIM MAGAZINE
"INSIGHTFUL AND THOUGHT-PROVOKING. AN INCREDIBLE FILM." -Brooke Anderson, CNN
"POWERFUL AND STIRRING." -Stephen Farber, MOVIELINE
CHARLIZE THERON FRANCES McDORMAND SISSY SPACEK WOODY HARRELSON SEAN BEAN
NORTH COUNTRY
FROM THE ACCLAIMED DIRECTOR OF "WHALE RIDER"
WWW.NORTHCOUNTRYMOVIE.COM
OPENS MARCH 22


OPENS MARCH 22
MTRCB G ALL AGES ARE ADMITTED
THE INCREDIBLE STORY OF THE TEAM THAT CHANGED THE GAME FOREVER.
WALT DISNEY PICTURES PRESENTS
GLORY ROAD
WINNING CHANGES EVERYTHING
BASED ON A TRUE STORY.

Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures


HOT!
NIÑA ROMUALDEZ
LYNN SHERMAN
SHAMAINE CENTENERA
AND PINKY MARQUEZ
SCHERING
HSBC The world's local bank
PLDT
present
JJ McCOLL'S we're still hot! THE MUSICAL

Teatrino at the Promenade, Greenhills 8PM
March 17,18,23,24,25,30 & 31 April 1,6,7,8,27,28 & 29
Tickets Available at
Ticketworld 891 9999 and Music Museum 721 6726
Teatrino 722 4532 local 116
Tickets
P1,000 & P800
Director: Leo Rialp

Who will be next? Find out here on your Philippine Idol Network
American Idol
Wed-Thurs-Fri 10pm
ABC
Iba Tayo!
ClickTheCity.com

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
TV GUIDE
Monday March 20 2006

Channel	2:30PM	3:00PM	3:30PM	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	5:30PM	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	11:30PM
ABC 5			WNCAA (Rerun)		Speed		TNA Impact		Sentro	How Clean Is Your House	ABC Action Movies				Big News	Fear Factor		Totoo TV	Insider
ABS-CBN 2	Kapamilya Cinema			Pasion de Amor	Little Amy	Mr. Bean	Naruto	Outstanding Twins	TV Patrol World		Gulong Ng Palad	Sa Piling Mo	Princess Lulu	Pinoy Big Brother		OK Fine! Whatever			
AXN		The Karate Kid Part II					E Buzz	Cold Squad		Amazon		Max Exposure (Season II)		The 4400 (Season 2)		Lost (Season II)		House	
Cartoon Network	Johnny Bravo	Dexter's Laboratory	Tom & Jerry Show		Baby Looney Tunes	Codename: Kids Next Door	Foster's Home For Imaginary Friends	The Grim Adventures Of Billy & Mandy	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles	Power Rangers Wild Force	The Gransazers	Battle B-Daman	Energy Bomb	X-Men Evolution	Samurai Jack	Justice League	Static Shock	Power Rangers Wild Force	The Gransazers
Cinema One		Pinakamagandang Hayop Sa Balat Ng Lupa				Muling Umawit Ang Puso				Esong ng Tondo				Kailangan Kita				American Adobo	
Cinemax			Madman (3:20 PM)			Mistral			Beastmaster III: The Eye Of Braxus			Confidence			Guilty As Charged (9:40 PM)			Timecop: The Berlin Decision (11:15PM)	
CNN				Business International		World News	World Sport	Larry King Live		Business International		World News Asia		World News	Living Golf	World News Asia		World News	World Sport
Crime/Suspense		What Should You Do?		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Profiler		Forensic Files	Mastermind	Law & Order		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Crossing Jordan		Bones		The Closer	
Discovery Channel		Raising The Kursk		Monster Garage		Miracle Man: John of God		I Shouldn't Be Alive		Wild Discovery		British Empire In Colour		The History Of Singapore		I Shouldn't Be Alive		New Detectives	
Disney Channel	Mr. Bean, The Animated Series	Totally Spies	Art Attack/Un-[illegible] Bunny	Mickey Mouse and Friends	Lilo & Stitch	Martin Mystery	Totally Spies	Kim Possible	Mr. Bean, The Animated Series	That's So Raven	Wonderful World Of Disney			Black Hole High	So Little Time	Mickey Mouse and Friends	Chip N Dale's Rescue Rangers	Wonderful World Of Disney	
ESPN		Pro Billiards '05 BCA Open 9 Ball C'ships Finals		Pool Snooker World Pool Masters '03 Holland		X-Games Files '03		Extreme Programming Sports Mania		In The Driver's Seat	Sportscenter Asia	Pro Billiards '05 [illegible] C'ships		Table Tennis '04 Sensational C'ships	LPGA Golf Showdown Presented by Coca-Cola 1st rd				Sportscenter Asia
ETC		Project Runway		Change of Heart	Elimidate	Blind Date	Fifth Wheel	Seinfeld	Ambush Makeover	The Tyra Banks Show		Project Runway		Queer Eye For The Straight Guy		ET Weekend		Joan Of Arcadia	
EWTN	Benediction And Devotion Encore	Angelus (3:15 PM)	Bible Treasure Chest	Image Of God	St. Thomas More: Faithful Statesman	Rosary With Mother Angelica	Voices On Virtue	EWTN Gallery	The Catholic Faith & Vatican II	Sunday Night With [Encore] Fr. Benedict Groeschel		Threshold Of Hope		Daily Mass (SAV) Live		Angelus (10:15PM)	Defending Life	Catholic Compass	
Fox News		Fox Report Sunday		Beltway Boys	Fox News Watch	Bulls & Bears	Cavuto On Business	Forbes On Fox	Cashin' In	Fox & Friends						Fox News Live			
GMA 7	Kung Mamahalin Mo Lang Ako	Now and Forever	First Love Of A Royale Prince		Dragonball Z	Great Teacher Onizuka	La Robe de Mariage	24 Oras		Extra Challenge	Encantadia	My Name Is Kim Sam Soon	Starstruck 3	Jewel In The Palace/Lagot Ka, Isusumbong Kita			Saksi		
Hallmark Channel	Bewitched	Child Of Our Time		Fungus The Bogeyman (3:50 PM)			Ladies Man	Bewitched	The Nanny	Strong Medicine		Judging Amy		Jane Doe: Til Death Do Us Part			McLeod's Daughters IV (10:35PM)		Strong Medicine (11:25PM)
HBO		The Perfect Score	Ready When You Are, Mr. McGill			The Postman						The River Wild				Home Fries			
Hero TV	Yakitate! Japan	Mr. Ajikko	D.I.C.E.	Samurai Deeper Kyo	Beyblade	Crush Gear Turbo	Gamburagar	Gosaurer	Rajin-Oh	Naruto	Mirmo de Pon	Inuyasha	Yu-Gi-Oh	Yakitate! Japan	Mr. Ajikko	D.I.C.E.	Samurai Deeper Kyo	Gosaurer	Rajin-Oh
IBC 13		EZ Shop				Home Shopping Network	IBC Express Balita	Kasangga Kontra Krimen		Home Shopping Network		ME TV		Japan Video Topics		Global Family Series	IBC News Tonite	Home Shopping Network	
JackTV	The Daily Show With Jon Stewart	The Late Show David Letterman		Bottomline		Afterburn		X-Men Evolution	Jack Yard	Mad TV		That 70s Show	Family Guy	The Late Show David Letterman		Jack In The Box			
Lifestyle Network	Country Style	Interiors By Design	Organizing With Style	Decorating Cents	Molto Mario	Sweet Dreams	30 Minute Meals	Bill Boggs Corner	Unwrapped	Food 911	E! Extra Jackie Collins Presents: Scandalous		My Fashion Week	Life & Style		Radical Sabbatical	Genuine Article	It's Good To Be	Style Star
MTV Philippines	Rockola	MTV2 Korn Way Twisted Transistor	Chart Attack		Viva La Bam	Pop Inc		2006 MAA Nominee Specials	MTV Hits			Massive	Get Spotted	TRL		The 70's House	Wild N' Out	Homecoming	VH1 Video Collections
MYX		Rock MYX	My MYX	Mellow MYX	Urban MYX	Take 5	MYXILOG		Star MYX	OPM MYX	Pop MYX	MYX Daily Top Ten				Urban MYX	My MYX	MYX Backtrax	MYXILOG
National Geographic	Africa From The Ground Up	Ultimate Survivor		Sea Of Snakes		Wildlife Diary	Planet Wild	Top 5		Wow!		About Asia		Terrorism Week: [illegible]		In The Womb		Journey Into Amazonia: Waterworlds/The Land Reborn/The Big Top	
NBN		Value Vision		New Life TV Shopping		Teledyaryo	Dyaryo Ko, Mahal Mo Ba Sila?	Tinig ng Bayan (Live)				Teledyaryo				Dial M		Bantay OCW With Susan K	
Nickelodeon	Chalkzone	Hey Arnold!	Rocket Power	My Life As A Teenage Robot	All Grown Up	The Adventures Jimmy Neutron	The Fairly Odd Parents	Drake & Josh	Naturally Sadie	Romeo	All That	All Grown Up	As Told By Ginger	Four Eyes	My Life As A Teenage Robot	The Adventures Jimmy Neutron	The Fairly Odd Parents	My Dad The Rock Star	
PBO			Sana Ay Ikaw Na Nga				Ginintuang Tala				Gabi Na Kumander				Maging Sino Ka Man				Pure Donna
Qtv	Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin		Zentrix	The Prince Of Tennis	MMS (My Music Station)		Moms		Love At Aegean Sea	Irene	Mars	Laugh To Laugh: Ang Kulit	H3O Ha Ha Ha Over		News On Q	Ulan Ng Kalbaryo		Irene	Romance
RPN 9	TV Shopping					Global Window		Entertainment Tonight	The Insider	Scare Tactics	NBA On RPN					Newswatch Now	Global Window	Cargo For Truth	
SBN 21				New Life TV Shopping				Winner TV Shopping		SBN Music Video		Oras Ng Himala		Oras ng Katotohanan		SBN Music Video			
Solar Sports		Danish Open 2006		WTA Tokyo SF		Boxing: Hasim vs Morita				Sagupaan		NBA Game: Heat @ Knicks					Sportsdesk	IBF German Open '04 MD Final	
Sports Plus						Ultimate Fighting Championship Special						Arena Football: Rush vs Orlando						Bay Hill Invitational Final	
Star Movies				Tuck Everlasting (3:50 PM)	Girl, Interrupted (5:25 PM)				Out For A Kill			The Sweetest Thing			Force Of Impact (10:20PM)				
Star World		The Bold & The Beautiful		General Hospital		Angel		The Simpsons	Malcolm In The Middle	Star News Asia	Seinfeld	My Wife And Kids	Everybody Loves Raymond/Still Standing (Series 3)	King Of Queens	Frasier	Monk		Seinfeld	My Wife And Kids
Studio 23	Bewitched	Masked Rider Ryuki				Batman Beyond	Dragon Booster	Sprite	Pinoy Big Brother	Wazzup Wazzup	The Swan Season 2		Charmed (8:20 PM)	Lost (9:10 PM)		News Central	The West Wing		Travel Time

TV SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

SM CINEMA

movietime

SM DIAL-A-MOVIE 833-9909*

CENTERstage LIVE-LARGE

831-1000 loc. 2871, 2873, 2882, 2891

BIG MOVIES • BIG SHOWS • BIG EVENTS

Now you can treat your bestfriend

Share a movie with a loved one with SM Cinema's

50%OFF treat on your 2nd ticket!

Starts on March 15 to April 30, 2006

Mondays to Thursdays

SM CINEMA
your life as a movie
where friendship begins

Buy one ticket and get your 2nd ticket at half the price. *Cannot be combined with other promos *Not valid with blocked screenings. * Same transaction only *Not valid on holiday*

MEGAMALL * STA. MESA * MANILA * PODIUM * FAIRVIEW * SOUTHMALL SAN LAZARO * PAMPANGA * BAGUIO * VALENZUELA * MARILAO * LUCENA MOLINO** *BATANGAS * CEBU * DAVAO* CAGAYAN DE ORO

**Promo starts on April 15, 2006

MEDIA PARTNERS: 96.3WRocK IFM 93.9

PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO 1175 SERIES OF 2006

movietime RED CARPET PREMIERE

FRESH NEW MOVIE

Moments of Love

SM MegamallCinema 3
March 27, 2006

This RED CARPET PREMIERE is sponsored by Cheeky Curlz & PIPOL Fish Chips. Available in leading Supermarkets

METRO MANILA

THE PODIUM

V FOR VENDETTA
12:30 FS / 12:50 MF / 03:30
06:10 / 08:25 LFS
08:50 LMF / 11:05 END

SHAGGY DOG
01:40 FS / 02:10 MF / 04:25
06:40 / 8:15LFS
09:00 LMF / 10:45 END

SM MEGACINEMA

1 BREAKING NEWS
01:00FS / 01:30 MF
07:00 / 08:30LFS
09:00 LMF / 10:30 END
2 HOUSE OF FURY
3 V FOR VENDETTA
4 RENOVATION
5 THE DARK
6 FEARLESS
7 FEARLESS
8 SHAGGY DOG
9 16 BLOCKS
10 FINAL DESTINATION 3
11 CASANOVA
12 CLOSE TO YOU

SM CITY NORTH EDSA

1 V FOR VENDETTA
2 FEARLESS
3 SHE'S THE MAN
4 RESERVED
5 SHAGGY DOG
6 HOUSE OF FURY
7 FINAL DESTINATION 3
8 16 BLOCKS

SM CITY DASMARINAS

1 V FOR VENDETTA
2 CASANOVA
3 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE
4 AEON FLUX

SM CITY FAIRVIEW

1 BREAKING NEWS
2 THE DARK
3 CLOSE TO YOU
4 16 BLOCKS
5 FINAL DESTINATION 3
6 FEARLESS
7 V FOR VENDETTA
8 SHAGGY DOG
9 SHE'S THE MAN
10 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE
11 UNDERCLASS MAN
12 HOUSE OF FURY

SM CITY STA. MESA

1 V FOR VENDETTA
2 SHAGGY DOG
3 16 BLOCKS
4 SHE'S THE MAN
5 FEARLESS
6 THE DARK
7 FINAL DESTINATION 3
8 HOUSE OF FURY
9 CLOSE TO YOU
10 CASANOVA

SM CITY BICUTAN

1 V FOR VENDETTA
2 CASANOVA
3 THE DARK
4 16 BLOCKS

SM CITY SAN LAZARO

1 V FOR VENDETTA
2 FINAL DESTINATION 3
3 SHAGGY DOG
4 16 BLOCKS
5 HOUSE OF FURY
6 SHE'S THE MAN

SM CITY MANILA

1 V FOR VENDETTA
2 SHE'S THE MAN
3 UNDERCLASS MAN
4 FEARLESS
5 SHAGGY DOG
6 16 BLOCKS
7 BREAKING NEWS
8 HOUSE OF FURY
9 FINAL DESTINATION 3
10 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE
11 CLOSE TO YOU
12 HOUSE OF FURY

SM CITY SOUTHMALL

1 V FOR VENDETTA
2 FEARLESS
3 SHAGGY DOG
4 16 BLOCKS
5 HOUSE OF FURY
6 SHE'S THE MAN
7 UNDERCLASS MAN
8 FINAL DESTINATION 3
9 THE DARK
10 RESERVED

SM SUPERCENTER VALENZUELA

1 V FOR VENDETTA
2 16 BLOCKS
3 FINAL DESTINATION 3
4 THE DARK

SM CITY SUCAT

1 SHAGGY DOG
2 V FOR VENDETTA
3 16 BLOCKS
4 CLOSE TO YOU

SM CENTERstage MAXMEDIA PRESENTS

hale 4

LIVE IN CONCERT

MARCH 24, 2006
FRIDAY• 8:30 PM

SM NORTH EDSA
CINEMA 1

Tickets available at TICKETWORLD 891-5610/ 891-9999

LUZON

SM CITY BAGUIO

1 NEW WORLD
2 CASANOVA
3 YOURS, MINE & OURS
4 V FOR VENDETTA

SM CITY MARILAO

1 CASANOVA
2 SYRIANA
3 16 BLOCKS
4 YOURS, MINE & OURS

SM CITY BATANGAS

1 YOURS, MINE & OURS
2 PRIME
3 FEARLESS
4 SYRIANA

SM CITY BACOOR

1 THE DARK
2 16 BLOCKS
3 V FOR VENDETTA
4 FINAL DESTINATION 3
5 SHAGGY DOG
6 SHE'S THE MAN
7 FEARLESS
8 CLOSE TO YOU

SM CITY STA. ROSA

1 LAST HOLIDAY
2 FINAL DESTINATION 3
3 AEON FLUX
4 V FOR VENDETTA

SM CITY PAMPANGA

1 V FOR VENDETTA
2 CASANOVA
3 FINAL DESTINATION 3
4 CLOSE TO YOU
5 FEARLESS
6 16 BLOCKS

SM CITY LUCENA

1 FEARLESS
2 YOURS, MINE & OURS
3 SAW 2
4 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE

SM CITY MOLINO

1 V FOR VENDETTA
2 THE DARK
3 YOURS, MINE & OURS
4 FEARLESS

VISAYAS MINDANAO

SM CITY CEBU

1 V FOR VENDETTA
11:15FS / 11:30 MF
02:00 / 04:30
07: 00 / 09:15 LFS
09:30 LMF / 11:45 END
2 RESERVED

3 NEW WORLD
11:15FS / 11:30 MF
02:00 / 04:30
07:00 / 09:15 LFS
09:30 LMF / 11:45 END
4 CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2
5 GOAL
6 16 BLOCKS
7 CLOSE TO YOU
8 FEARLESS

SM CITY ILOILO

1 CASANOVA
2 RESERVED
3 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE
4 FEARLESS
5 V FOR VENDETTA
6 UNDERCLASS MAN
7 RESERVED
8 16 BLOCKS

SM CITY DAVAO

1 V FOR VENDETTA
2 FEARLESS
3 FIREWALL
4 FINAL DESTINATION 3
5 AEON FLUX
6 16 BLOCKS

SM CITY CAGAYAN

1 SYRIANA
2 PRIDE AND PREJUDICE
3 BLOODRAYNE
4 PINK PANTHER

SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

*FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MOVIE LISTING, MTRCB RATING, SCREENING SCHEDULES AND THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT SM CINEMA

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

MOVIEWORLD

CINEMA ACCESS
635-5555
FOR ALL BRANCHES

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA 632-9116

1 CASANOVA • THX
12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00
2 V FOR VENDETTA
11:00 1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00
3 HOUSE OF FURY
1:20 3:30 5:40 7:50 10:00
4 SHAGGY DOG
1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50
5 HOSTEL
11:00 1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50
6 SHE'S THE MAN
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00
7 DATE MOVIE
1:20 3:25 5:30 7:35 9:45
8 BROKEBACK MOUNATIN
1:30 4:20 7:10 10:00
9 16 BLOCKS
12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00
10 THE DARK
1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 . 9:50

ERMITA 536-7809 to 12

1 V FOR VENDETTA
10:10 12:35 3:40 6:40 9:50
2 THE DARK
10:10 12:20 2:30
16 BLOCKS
4:30 6:20 8:10 10:00
3 SHE'S THE MAN
10:10 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 10:00
4 HOUSE OF FURY
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50
5 HOSTEL
10:10 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50
6 SHAGGY DOG
11:00 1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00 9:00
7 DATE MOVIE
10:40 12:20 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 9:50

METRO EAST 682-8193 • 682-8199

1 THE DARK
12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00
2 V FOR VENDETTA
12:00 3:00 6:00 9:00
3 HOSTEL
11:45 2:05 4:25 6:45 9:05
4 DATE MOVIE
12:15 2:00 3:45 5:30 7:15 9:00
5 PRIDE AND PREJUDICE
1:00 3:00 6:00 9:00
6 SHAGGY DOG
11:25 1:50 4:15 6:40 9:05
7 16 BLOCKS
12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00
8 SHE'S THE MAN
11:05 1:35 4:05 6:35 9:05

NOVALICHES 935-3231 / 935-3229-30

1 SHAGGY DOG
2 V FOR VENDETTA
3 BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN
4 HOSTEL
5 HOUSE OF FURY

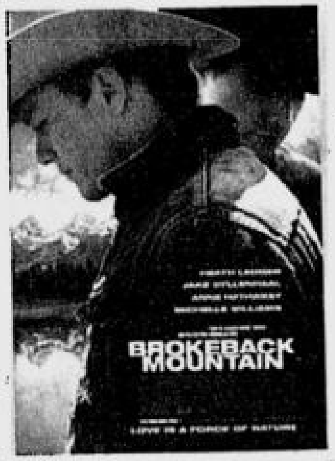
CITISQUARE MALABON 288-2575

1 FEARLESS
2 V FOR VENDETTA
3 RESERVE
4 RESERVE

PIONEER 687-5378

1 V FOR VENDETTA
2 HOSTEL
3 SHE'S THE MAN
4 SHAGGY DOG

CHECK THIS OUT ▸▸


BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN
LOVE IS A FORCE OF NATURE

BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN

Winner of 4 Golden Globe Awards
• Best Motion Picture • Best Director • Best Screenplay • Best Song

Winner of 78th Annual Academy Awards
• Best Director • Best Screenplay • Best Musical Score

showing only at Robinsons Movieworld

GALLERIA • NOVALICHES • STA. ROSA
LIPA • STARMILLS, PAMPANGA

MTRCB Rating: R-18

STA. ROSA (049) 837-0907

1 V FOR VENDETTA
2 HOSTEL
3 TIGER BLADE
4 BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN
5 AEON FLUX

LIPA (043) 757-3684 (043) 312-5870

1 BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN
2 HOSTEL
3 YOURS, MINE AND OURS
4 AEON FLUX

DASMARIÑAS (046) 852-2125 (046) 416-4332

1 CASANOVA
2 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE 2
3 HOSTEL
4 V FOR VENDETTA

ANGELES (045) 892-2348

1 V FOR VENDETTA
2 HOSTEL
3 MURDER
4 AEON FLUX

IMUS (046) 875-3838 (046) 471-8188

1 CASANOVA
2 HOSTEL
3 SHAGGY DOG
4 V FOR VENDETTA
5 LAST HOLIDAY
6 TIGER BLADE

STARMILLS (045) 875-1927 (045) 961-5270

1 16 BLOCKS
2 HOSTEL
3 FINAL DESTINATION 3
4 BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN
5 CASANOVA
6 V FOR VENDETTA

BACOLOD (034) 441-0453 (034) 441-0459

1 V FOR VENDETTA
2 HOSTEL
3 NEW WORLD
4 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE 2
5 MURDER
6 FEARLESS

ILOILO (033) 336-8070

1 V FOR VENDETTA
2 16 BLOCKS
3 CASANOVA
4 HOSTEL
5 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE 2
6 FEARLESS

MOVIE PASS
MOVIE PASS

The Perfect Gift All Year Round

A Pre Paid Movie Pass to the Hottest Seats in town.

Get Special discounts for volume purchases!

For marketing and events/reservations please call Marketing Services Department at 687-7945 to 47 locals 14 and 15

An A for B movies

From page A2-1

featured local stars Bernard Bonnin, Charlie Davao, Paquito Diaz and Sofia Moran, and was produced by Santiago.

Homegrown actors Vic Diaz, Subas Herrero and Marissa Delgado were cast in Hill's "The Big Bird Cage" in 1972. Also in 1972, Romero worked as director on "Black Mama, White Mama," where Diaz, Dindo Fernando, Alona Alegre, Lotis Key and Eddie Garcia played pivotal roles.

All these movies starred Pam Grier, the acknowledged queen of "black exploitation" and "women-in-prison" flicks.

Romero recalls: "I heard that Quentin Tarantino cast Pam as lead in 'Jackie Brown' because he saw 'Black Mama' as a kid."

Hawkins disagrees with critics who dismiss such flicks as non-mainstream fare.

"These films were not on the margins," Hawkins tells INQUIRER Entertainment. " 'Black Mama' made millions of dollars in New York where it was shown in 87 theaters. To me, they're not bad movies. They're entertaining and exciting. They're high-concept films made on low budgets."

Among female prison flicks, his favorite is "Big Bird Cage," he says, because "it's outrageous, silly and fun."

He also likes Tony Falcon and Pinoy cowboy movies.

A major challenge he has encountered in his research work in the country is the lack of available copies of Pinoy secret agent and Western movies.

"There isn't an integrated film archive system here," he says. "The movies I'm interested in are not considered great heritage films worthy of preservation."

These so-called commercial flicks, however, should also be saved because, as "cultural products," they were made during (and reflected) a tumultuous time in Philippine history.

In these movies, certain "subversive" elements seeped through, blurring the lines between fact and fiction—for example, allusions to the Plaza Miranda bombing and B-movie actress Dovie Beams' adulterous affair with martial law President Ferdinand Marcos in "Big Bird Cage."

"It was revealed and obscured at the same time," Hawkins says of the political subtext in these movies. "Ironically, at a time when Marcos was trying to suppress a revolution in the Philippines, these movies were valorizing revolutionaries as heroes . . . I asked Cirio Santiago about it and he admitted that, when he read the script [of 'Big Bird Cage'], his initial reaction was: 'There's no way we could get away with it!'"

But they did.

"The Marcos government didn't care," Hawkins says. "It's fascinating how they found a way to tell the story of the Philippines in an indirect way."

ENTERTAINMENT

Brownman mall tour

BROWMAN REVIVAL is currently touring Robinson's Malls to promote their new album, "Steady Lang," from BMG Records Pilipinas. First stop was Robinsons Place Metro East on March 3, followed by Santa Rosa on March 5, then Galleria on March 17. Forthcoming schedules include Robinsons Place Manila on March 30 and Novaliches on April 2. Shows start at 5 p.m.

'Band Explosion'

"Band Explosion" happens March 24, 8:30 p.m. at the Araneta Coliseum. Featured groups are Orange and Lemons, Cueshe, Spongecola, Brownman Revival. Kitchie Nadal will also perform. Call 911-5555.

SHOW TIME

Tonight

Michaelangelo at Tavern on the Square
Suzy Unas at Manila Pavilion's Boulvar Lounge
Captiva at Metro Phi Bar, Metrowalk Complex

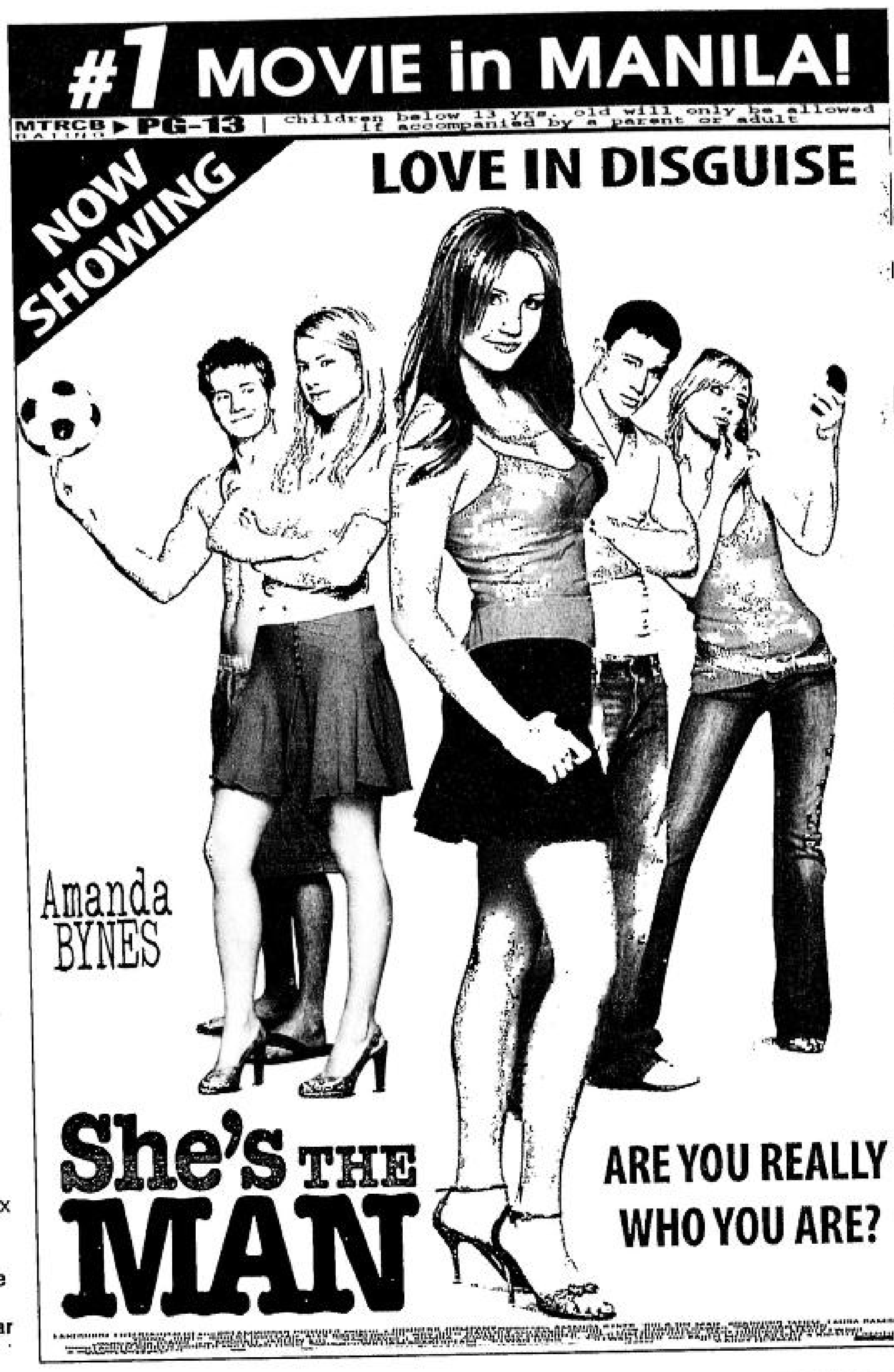
Tomorrow

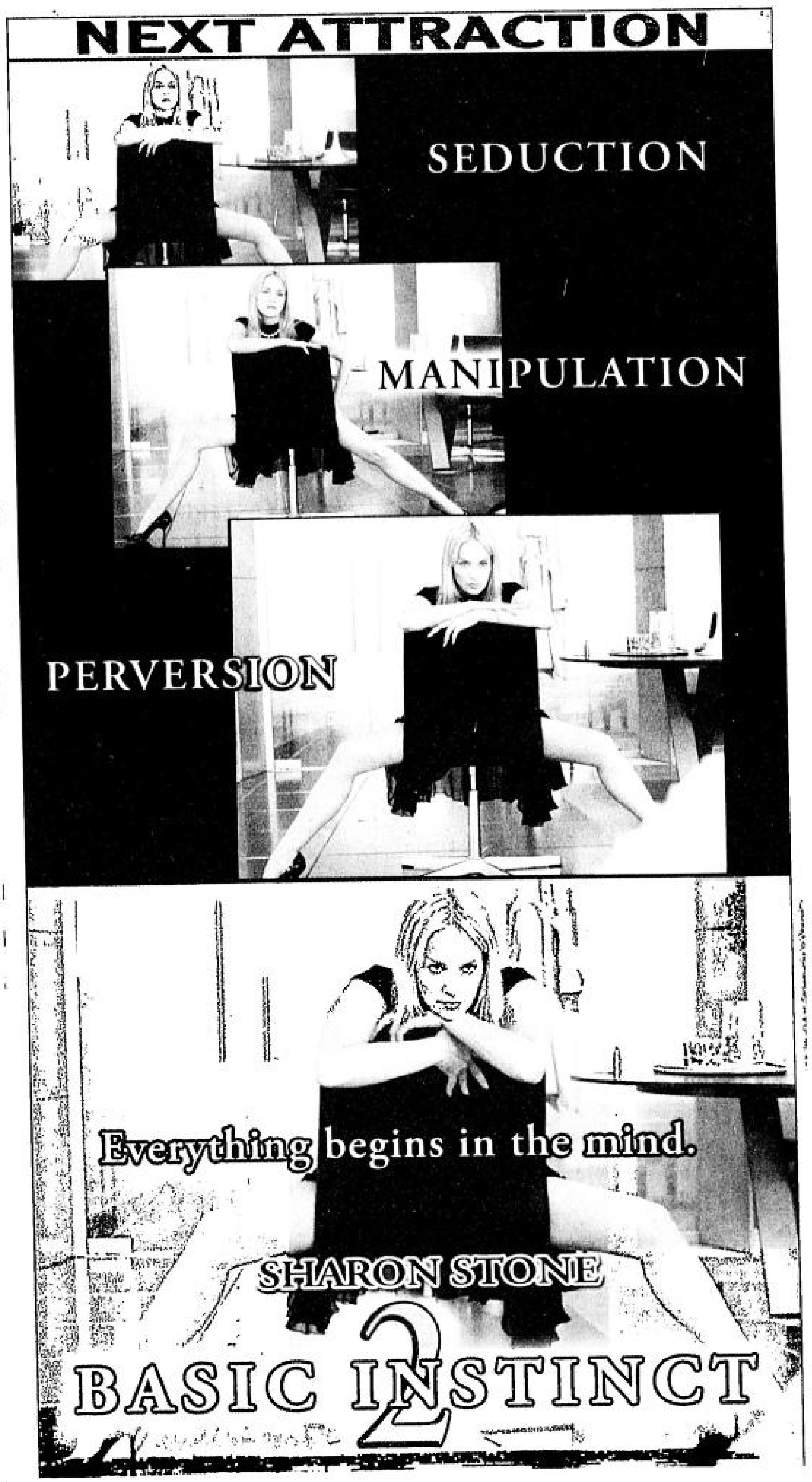
Freeverse at Tavern on the Square
Eight Noteat RJ Guitar Bar
Aretha and **Souled Out** at Merk's
Troy Montero at Bagaberde Roxas Boulevard
U-Turn at Bagaberde Pasig
Margarita at Manila Pavilion's Boulvar Lounge
Ministix at Metro Phi Bar, Metrowalk Complex

March 22

Ntwine at Tavern on the Square
Moonstruck at RJ Guitar Bar
Jacqui Magno at Merk's
Wiseguys at Bagaberde Pasig
Frenchie Dy at Ratsky Tomas Morato
Jeli Mateo at Manila Pavilion's Boulvar Lounge

BROWNMAN Revival


#1 MOVIE in MANILA!
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
NOW SHOWING
LOVE IN DISGUISE
Amanda BYNES
She's THE MAN
ARE YOU REALLY WHO YOU ARE?


NEXT ATTRACTION
SEDUCTION
MANIPULATION
PERVERSION
Everything begins in the mind.
SHARON STONE
BASIC INSTINCT 2

AT THE CINEMAS

Reserve your tickets by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.
Movie schedules may change without prior notice. For verification, please call 729 7777

Cinema	Screen	Film	Schedule
G1 GLORIETTA 1	1	HOUSE OF FURY	
	2	V FOR VENDETTA	
	3	HOSTEL	
	4	SHE'S THE MAN	
G4 GLORIETTA 4	1	DATE MOVIE	
	2	HOSTEL	
	3 THX	V FOR VENDETTA	2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 10:30 GUARANTEED SEATS
	4	YOURS, MINE & OURS	
	5	16 BLOCKS	
	6	SHE'S THE MAN	
	7	SHAGGY DOG	
GB1 GREENBELT 1	1	16 BLOCKS	
	2	V FOR VENDETTA	
GB3 GREENBELT 3	1 THX	SHE'S THE MAN	2:15, 4:30, 6:45, 9:00, 11:15 GUARANTEED SEATS
	2 THX	V FOR VENDETTA	2:50, 5:35, 6:20, 11:05 GUARANTEED SEATS
	3	16 BLOCKS	2:15, 4:30, 6:45, 9:00, 11:15 GUARANTEED SEATS
	4	DATE MOVIE	2:00, 3:40, 5:30, 7:15, 9:00, 10:45 GUARANTEED SEATS
	5	HOSTEL	2:35, 4:45, 6:55, 9:00, 11:15 GUARANTEED SEATS
ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 THX	SHE'S THE MAN	
	2	V FOR VENDETTA	
	3	SHAGGY DOG	
	4	YOURS, MINE & OURS	
	5	HOSTEL	
ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU	1	V FOR VENDETTA	
	2	HOSTEL	
	3	PRIDE & PREJUDICE	
	4	CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2	
M2 MARKET! MARKET!	1	V FOR VENDETTA	
	2	HOSTEL	
	3	HOUSE OF FURY	
	4	SHE'S THE MAN	
	5	SHAGGY DOG	

At the Activity Center

Customer Service text hotline: 0917 6095900
Customer Service Numbers: Glorietta - 752 7272; from 10am to 8pm
Greenbelt - 752 4853; from 11am to 12mn
Alabang Town Center - 842 2782; from 10am to 8pm
Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231 5342 loc 324
Market! Market! - 886 7519

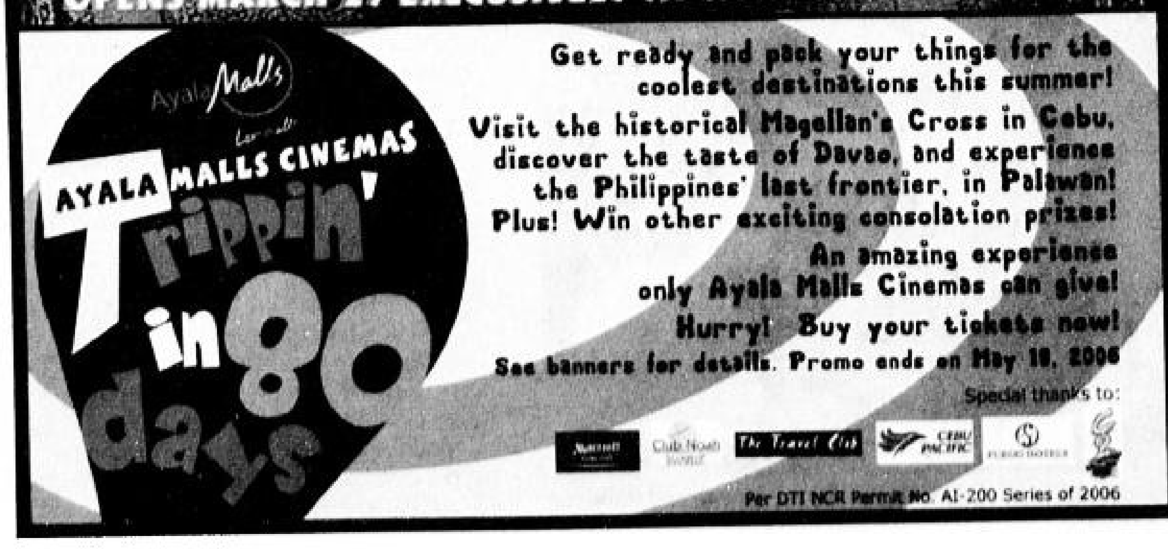
GLORIETTA	ALABANG TOWN CENTER
BPI Installment Madness March 15-31, 2006	**Anson's Emporium Exhibit** March 12 to 31, 2006
AYALA CENTER CEBU	MARKET! MARKET!
Belle Dancing Showdown March 18, 2006	**Makati Auto Car Show** March 17 to 18, 2006

GREENBELT — **Double Midnight Madness Sale**
February 17 to 19, 2006

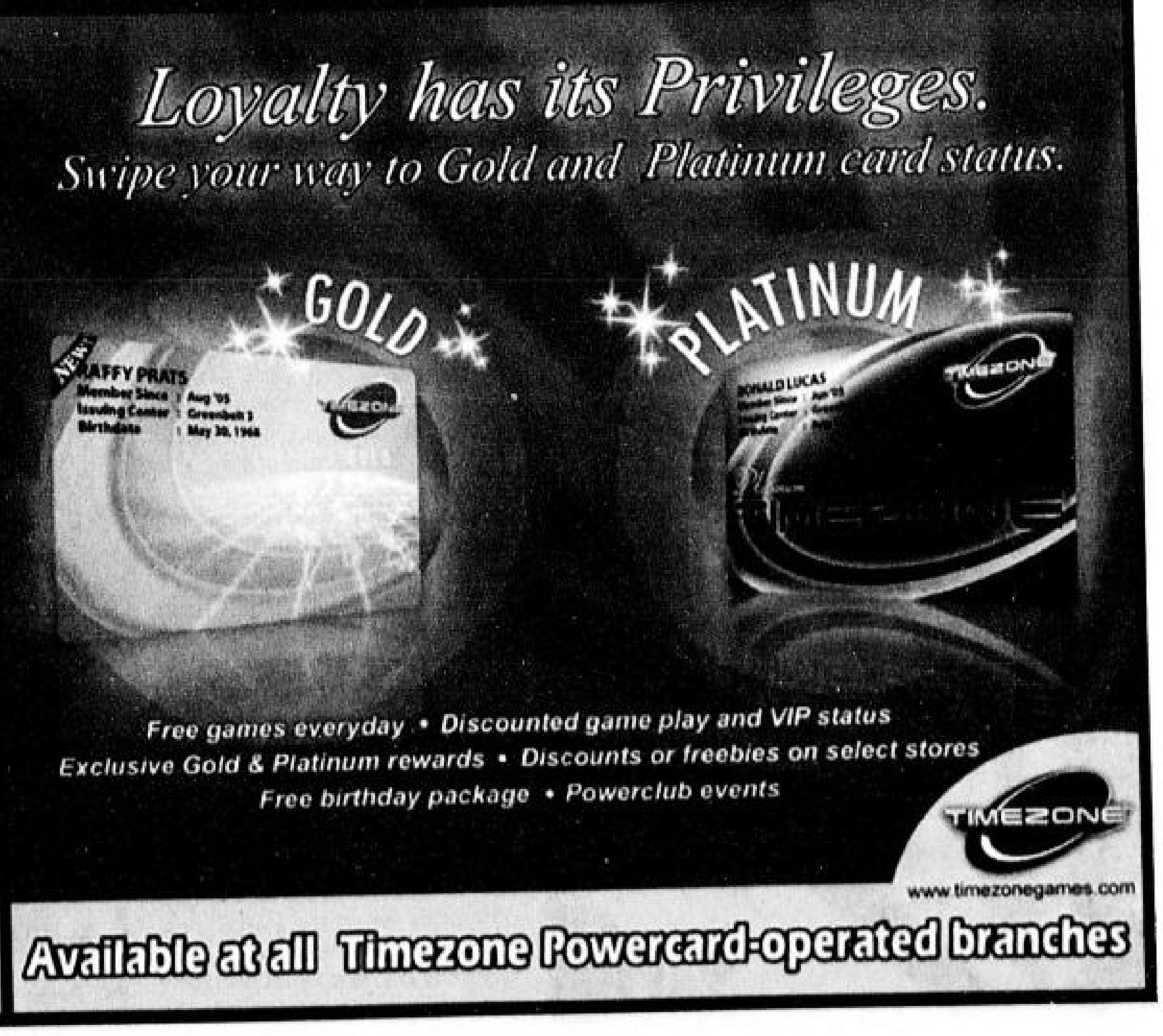
Onstage — **Repertory Philippines presents 7 NG UMAGA**
at REP's Globe Theater - March 24, 25, 26, 31, April 1, 2, 7, 8, 9
For inquiries, pls. call 887-0710

Ayala MUSEUM — **Come & view the 20th ASIAN INTERNATIONAL ART EXHIBIT**
For inquiries, please call 757-7117 to 21 loc 29.
Or visit www.ayalamuseum.org

The much awaited film version of the award-winning broadway musical
RENT
"MUST SEE FILM OF THE YEAR!" — Paul Clinton, CNN
"TWO THUMBS UP." — Ebert & Roeper
MTRCB Rating: Restricted 13
OPENS MARCH 29 EXLCUSIVELY AT AYALA MALLS CINEMAS


Ayala Malls
AYALA MALLS CINEMAS Trippin' in 80 days

Get ready and pack your things for the coolest destinations this summer!
Visit the historical Magellan's Cross in Cebu, discover the taste of Davao, and experience the Philippines' last frontier, in Palawan! Plus! Win other exciting consolation prizes!
An amazing experience only Ayala Malls Cinemas can give!
Hurry! Buy your tickets now!
See banners for details. Promo ends on May 18, 2006
Special thanks to:
Per DTI NCR Permit No. AI-200 Series of 2006


Loyalty has its Privileges.
Swipe your way to Gold and Platinum card status.
GOLD
PLATINUM
Free games everyday • Discounted game play and VIP status
Exclusive Gold & Platinum rewards • Discounts or freebies on select stores
Free birthday package • Powerclub events
TIMEZONE
www.timezonegames.com
Available at all Timezone Powercard-operated branches

Glory days *and* drama

YESTERDAY

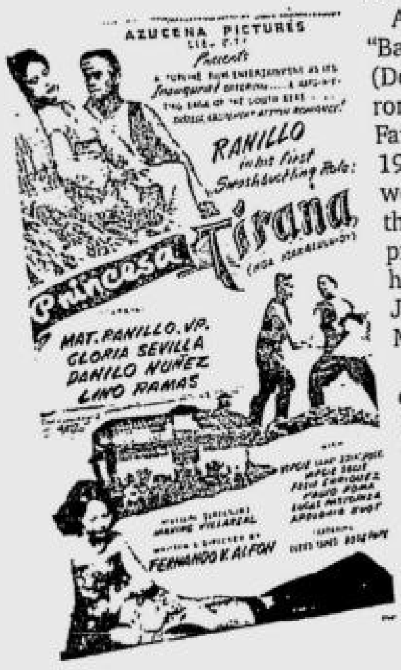
FROM glamour gal to golden grandma: "My goal is to be of service."

By Bayani San Diego Jr.
Photos by Rudy Esperas
Additional photos courtesy of Gloria Sevilla and the Mowelfund Film Institute

> Gloria Sevilla wasn't just the Queen of Cebuano cinema, she was also a pioneering producer who championed Visayan films

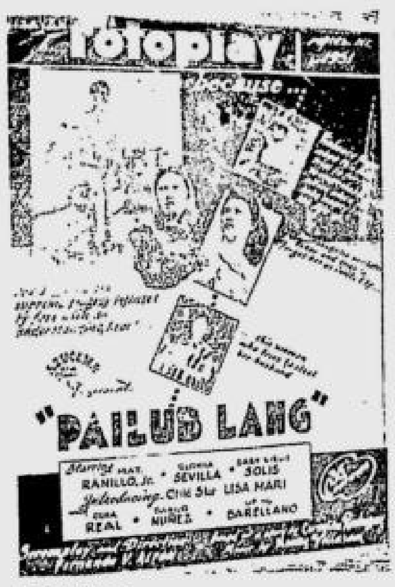
IT'S A LONG STORY," she cautions the listener, but proceeds to tell it, anyway.

Gloria Sevilla, Queen of Cebuano cinema, is recounting the glory days, when Visayan films competed with Tagalog hits not only for audience adulation but for Famas trophies.



A Cebuano film, "Badlis sa Kinabuhi (Destiny)," almost romped away with Famas Best Picture in 1970. In fact, Gloria won Best Actress for that movie, which she produced with first husband Mat Ranillo Jr. under their own MG Films.

That was the second of her three Famas statuettes. She won Best Supporting Actress for "Madugong Paghihiganti" in 1963 and again Best Actress for "Gimingaw Ako (I Miss You)" in 1974.



POSTERS of Gloria's biggest hits in Cebu

More significantly, "Badlis" was shown in the Berlin International Film Festival and "Gimingaw" in the Moscow International Film Festival—both in the noncompetition category.

Gloria, who describes herself as an awkward and gangly teener, has surely gone a long way from Cebu.

Meeting Mat

For good and ill, her sun-kissed and exotic looks helped her catch people's attention.

"I was so thin and dark, my classmates called me *tikling*, after the bird," Gloria recalls. "But in one declamation contest that I won, Danilo Nuñez—talent scout, actor and my Papa's *kumpare*—happened to be in the audience."

It was Danilo, a *kontrabida* in Cebuano flicks who later became Gloria's co-star in many movies (including "Badlis"), who asked Bonifacio Sevilla, the 14-year-old's father, to allow her to join the movies.

For good measure, Danilo dragged along her future co-star and husband, Mat.

"I wanted it so bad that, before I faced them, I wore my mom's bra and stuffed it with rags because I was flat-chested," she chortles. "Mat was my crush!"

THE CEBUANA charmer at age 14

IN THE 1960s, with Mat Jr.

Sufficiently motivated, Gloria bested 60 other aspirants in the audition and bagged the lead role opposite Mat in "Princesa Tirana," produced by Concordia Arong of Azucena Pictures.

A string of hits followed, like "Leonora," "Pailub Lang (Be Humble)" and "Gloria Akong Anak."

Before long, Manila beckoned.

One of the Santiago brothers (of Premiere) was in Cebu and noticed the long lines to one of Gloria's movies. Turned out, the theater checker was Gloria's father. Soon enough, before her dad could even finish asking her, 17-year-old Gloria was packing her bags for Manila.

Her first movie for Premiere was National Artist Gerry de Leon's "Banga ni Zimadar," topbilled by Efren Reyes, Johnny Montero, Edna Luna and Carol Varga.

"I was given so much importance in the billing," she beams. "I had one frame all to myself and it said: 'And introducing to the Tagalog audience, the Queen of Visayan movies, Gloria Sevilla!'"

A year later, she was promoted to lead role in another De Leon masterpiece, "Ifugao"—which went down in history not only for giving Efren Reyes the Best Actor prize in the second Asian Film Festival in 1955, but also for showcasing the first frontal nude scene, with the dauntless Gloria, of course.

"But since I wasn't that busty, the film's makeup artists Toti Evangelista and Tony Artiaga made prosthetic breasts for me," she remembers. "Every time they pulled the fake boobs off my chest, I cried out in pain. It was as if they used Mighty Bond!"

Gloria's work in Premiere and with Manong Gerry had undoubtedly taught her to put a premium on quality when she started producing her own movies.

Proof: Two Visayan films under her supervision were sent to Europe.

IN THE 1990s, with Amado

"'Badlis' was shown in the Informative division in Berlin in 1970," she recounts. "The Philippine government dispatched a female consul as my chaperone and gave me P5,000 as clothing allowance."

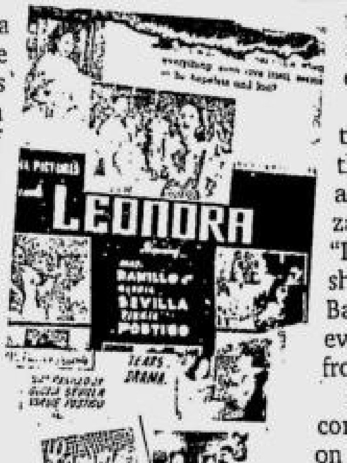
Gloria brought three suitcases filled with *ternos*, Southern Philippine and other native costumes by designer Rudy Fuentes.

"We even brought *sampaguita* and Vanda orchids that were kept in a freezer on the plane," she recalls.

Showstopper

In Berlin, she was a showstopper. She made certain of this by arriving late on the opening night of "Badlis" and making a grand entrance down a spiral staircase.

"The next day I landed on the front pages of German newspapers," she chuckles.



Two years later, she again made heads turn in Moscow, where "Gimingaw," directed by second husband Amado Cortez, was screened.

"At first, I wanted to walk out because the Philippine flag wasn't displayed," she says. Always a fighter, Gloria eventually convinced the organizers to show off the Philippine colors.

During the closing ceremony at the Kremlin, Gloria's *terno* and Amado's *barong* elicited admiring glances from fellow delegates—including Chilean First Lady Hortensia Bussi Soto, wife of Salvador Allende.

"She complimented my *terno* which was made of *hablon* and studded with crystals," Gloria reminisces. "She kept telling me that I was gorgeous. I guess it was her first time to see someone ugly!'"

True drama

Gloria's healthy sense of humor has saved her from the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune on more than one occasion. Her life was just as dramatic as the tearjerkers she starred in.

Mat died in a plane crash in 1969, making her a widow with five kids, and eight months pregnant at that.

In the 1980s, she migrated to the United States with second husband Amado and made ends meet by selling kitchenware. In her spare time, she joined the Ninoy Aquino Movement and the street demonstrations against the Marcoses in the US.

Post-Edsa, Gloria stayed in the sidelines. President Corazon Aquino appointed Amado as consul in San Francisco, a post he held until 1992.

Two years later, President Joseph Estrada made Amado ambassador to 11 Pacific states in the US, in which capacity he served until a year before his passing in 2003.

Gloria herself has been appointed by President Macapagal-Arroyo as Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (Tesda) board member. "We visited Melbourne, Australia," she reports. "We observed in vocational schools. Every now and then, we also go to the Visayas and Mindanao to conduct seminars for Tesda."

Seems show biz has been shelved for this mother of seven and grandmother of 12.

"I'm also active in Rivers of the Living Water, a Catholic organization," she says. "I also host a radio show, 'Inday sa Balitaw,' on DZRB, every Saturday, from 4 to 5 p.m."

She made a TV comeback recently on QTV 11's Friday night sitcom "Ganda ng Lola Ko"—with Bella Flores and Baby O'Brien. Daughter Suzette Ranillo directed her and Nora Aunor on "Care Home," a TV drama special on Filipina caregivers abroad.

Last Saturday, "Badlis" was shown at the "Aktres: Pelikula at Lipunan" film festival mounted by Mowelfund at the Gateway Mall.

Even in her golden years, unstoppable and indefatigable Gloria is stacking a full plate in front of her.

"For the love of… " she asserts. "I want to continue to help in my own little way. When you grow old, your only goal in life is to be of service."

IN "Palad Ta ang Nagbuot," with Gabriel "Flash" Elorde and Rebecca Gonzales

---

ROUNDUP

Offensive hairdo

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO—An Indian family sued the producers of Steven Spielberg's television miniseries, "Into the West," claiming a set stylist cut their 8-year-old daughter's hair without regard for tribal customs.

"Just because you're wealthy, you don't do something without checking first," the girl's father, Danny Ponce, said Friday. The family is Mescalero Apache.

Ponce filed suit in federal court on March 6, naming Turner Films Inc. and an unidentified stylist as defendants. The lawsuit seeks $250,000 for emotional distress and $75,000 in damages.

A Turner Films spokesperson said the company doesn't comment on pending litigation. *AP*

Nick L sitcom

LOS ANGELES—Nick Lachey could be looking at another steady TV gig.

Heading toward single status in real life as his divorce from Jessica Simpson nears completion, he'll play a bachelor in a sitcom pilot for the new CW network.

He'll star as Colin, a single man living in Manhattan, in the comedy "She Said/He Said," CW spokesperson Paul McGuire said Friday.

Other cast members are still being hired for the pilot that will shoot in April, McGuire said. *AP*

Back to work

LOS ANGELES—Maternity leave is over for Oscar winner Julia Roberts, who is planning her return to the silver screen, Hollywood trade magazine Variety reported Friday.

ROBERTS

Roberts, 39, began her maternity leave in early 2005 to take care of her twin children.

The famous "Pretty Woman" is now in final talks to star in a movie titled "Daniel Isn't Talking," based on a novel by Marti Leimbach.

The movie, about the challenges of a family that raises an autistic child, is to be produced by Karen Rosenfelt with a script by Stephen Chbosky ("Rent").

Roberts has already starred in a movie based on a Leimbach book, "Dying Young" (1991). *AFP*

Not for good

LOS ANGELES—Michael Jackson has shuttered his Neverland Valley Ranch home and laid off staff, but contrary to media reports the pop star has not shut down the estate for good, his spokesperson said on Friday.

Jackson's plans for the sprawling central California ranch have been in question since March 9, when state officials fined the singer $69,000 and effectively closed the estate because he allowed his workers compensation insurance to lapse.

The 47-year-old entertainer was also fined an estimated $100,000 for failing to issue paychecks to Neverland's workers for four months, but dodged legal action this week by paying employees hundreds of thousands of dollars in back wages. *Reuters*

Getting married

LOS ANGELES—"Desperate Housewives" actress Nicollette Sheridan and singer Michael Bolton are engaged, Sheridan's publicist confirmed.

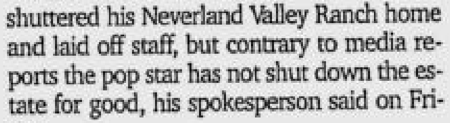
Sheridan, 42, and Bolton, 53, dated for several years in the 1990s and rekindled their romance last year.

Sheridan was married to actor Harry Hamlin from 1991 to 1993. Bolton ended his 15-year marriage to Maureen McGuire, with whom he has three daughters, in 1990. *AP*

Siu Bang

WILLIAM Hung, "American Idol" reject-turned-pop star and TV celebrity, has added "movie star" to his resumé with "Where's Mama's Boy," his first feature film.

In the movie, showing on March 28, 12:05 p.m. on Star Chinese Movies, Hung plays a good-natured village kid in ancient China who sells pancakes to pay for his mother's medical expenses.



Signed up

VIVA Entertainment has signed up three finalists of the recently concluded "Search for a Star in a Million" on ABS-CBN.

The new Viva recording artists—shown in photo with Veronique del Rosario, managing director of Viva Artists Agency—are, from left, Jay Perillo, Jimmy Marquez and Vino Bello.

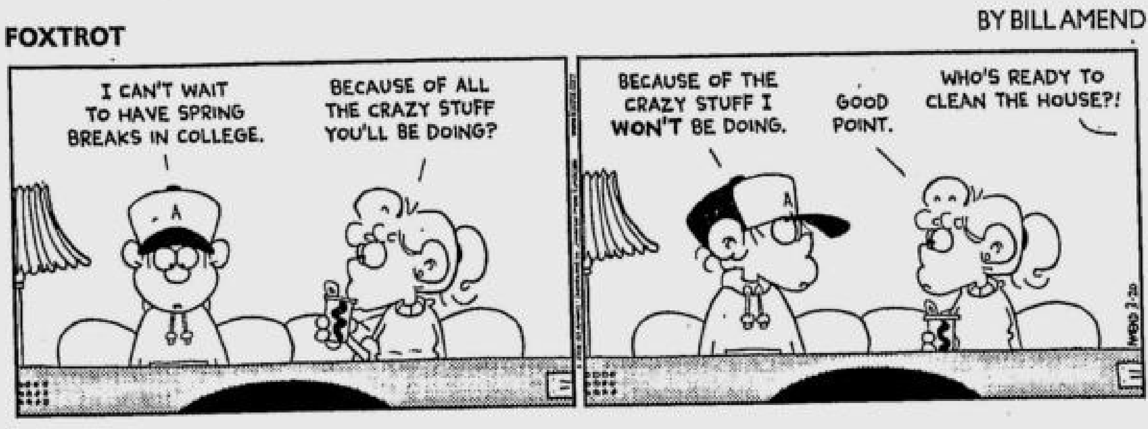
Now on disc

"TIM BURTON's Corpse Bride" and "Must Love Dogs" are now available on DVD and VCD (in wide screen and full screen formats) from Warner Home Video.

"Bride" on DVD contains behind-the-scene footage and animation featurettes; "Dogs" has additional scenes.

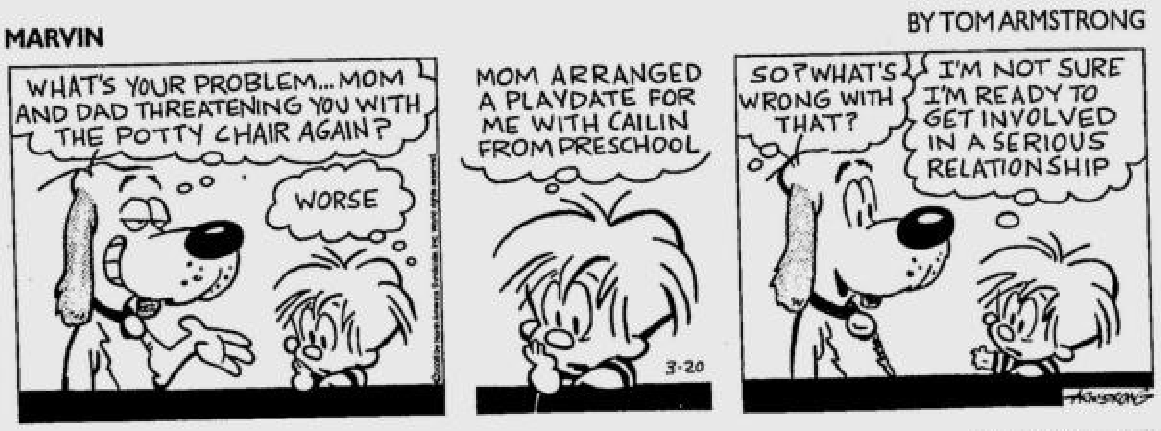
FOXTROT

BY BILL AMEND


I CAN'T WAIT TO HAVE SPRING BREAKS IN COLLEGE.
BECAUSE OF ALL THE CRAZY STUFF YOU'LL BE DOING?
BECAUSE OF THE CRAZY STUFF I WON'T BE DOING.
GOOD POINT.
WHO'S READY TO CLEAN THE HOUSE?!

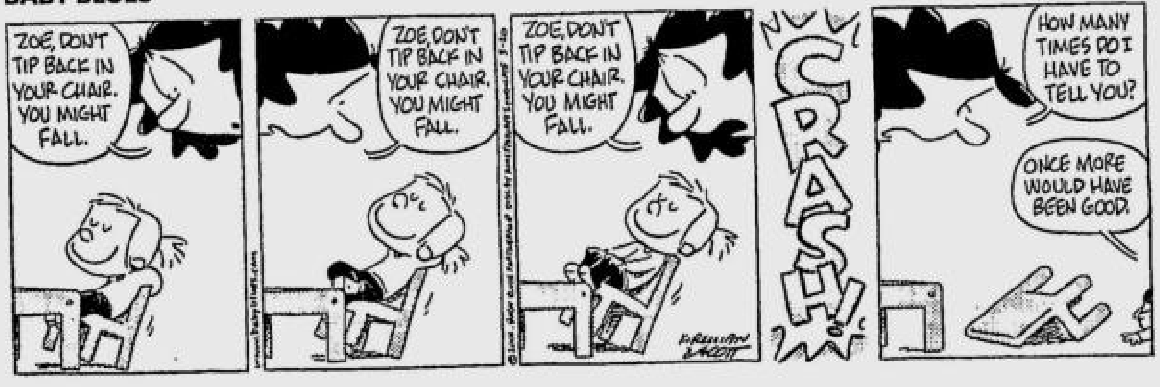
MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG


WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM... MOM AND DAD THREATENING YOU WITH THE POTTY CHAIR AGAIN?
WORSE
MOM ARRANGED A PLAYDATE FOR ME WITH CAILIN FROM PRESCHOOL
3-20
SO? WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT?
I'M NOT SURE I'M READY TO GET INVOLVED IN A SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP

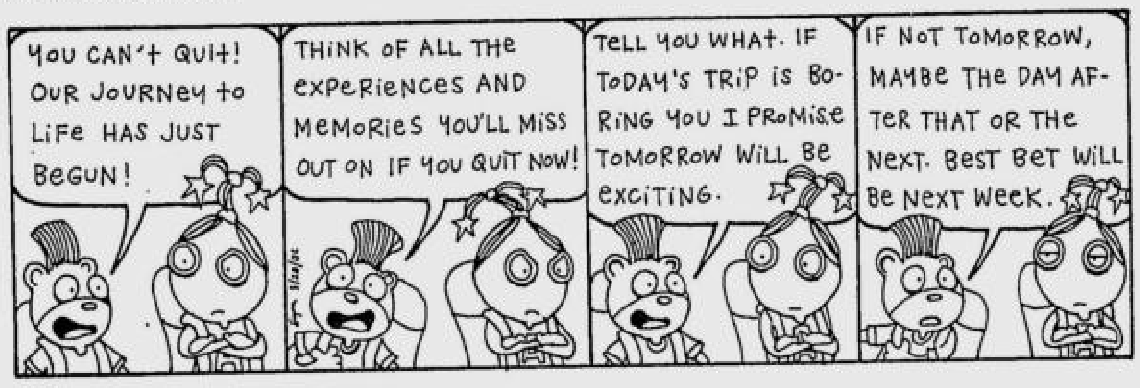
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


ZOE, DON'T TIP BACK IN YOUR CHAIR. YOU MIGHT FALL.
ZOE, DON'T TIP BACK IN YOUR CHAIR. YOU MIGHT FALL.
ZOE, DON'T TIP BACK IN YOUR CHAIR. YOU MIGHT FALL.
CRASH!
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU?
ONCE MORE WOULD HAVE BEEN GOOD.

ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


YOU CAN'T QUIT! OUR JOURNEY TO LIFE HAS JUST BEGUN!
THINK OF ALL THE EXPERIENCES AND MEMORIES YOU'LL MISS OUT ON IF YOU QUIT NOW!
TELL YOU WHAT. IF TODAY'S TRIP IS BORING YOU I PROMISE TOMORROW WILL BE EXCITING.
IF NOT TOMORROW, MAYBE THE DAY AFTER THAT OR THE NEXT. BEST BET WILL BE NEXT WEEK.

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

YOU BORN TODAY: You have a logical, analytical mind. Your sensitivity is not always apparent, but it's there. Most of you are talented in several fields. At times, you're a dreamy idealist, but your feet are always on the ground. You value friendship. Everyone knows you're a romantic. Prepare to work hard this year for success in the following year.

Birthdate of: Spike Lee, director/writer; William Hurt, actor; Holly Hunter, actress.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): Today the Sun moves into your sign. Happy birthday! It's your turn to recharge your batteries for the rest of the year. Put yourself first now.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Your popularity rating definitely increases now! Everyone wants to see your face. Accept all invitations. Enjoy good times with others.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): You have an increasing desire to travel now. You want more out of life. You want to see more of the world! And you want to learn more too.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): You need rest and relaxation. You have a lot to think about. As your year comes to an end, you have to ponder it, and wonder what you want for the year ahead.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): The Sun is now at high noon in your chart. This acts like a spotlight on you. Everyone notices you, especially VIPs and important people. Milk this for all it's worth.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): You feel quite intensely about things now and for the next few weeks. You won't get to the bottom of something. You will not settle for superficial explanations.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): The Sun is now as far away from your sign as it will get all year. Because of this, you might feel tired. (The Sun gives us energy.) Partnerships will be a strong focus now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): You have a lot of energy now to get organized. You're working hard to improve your life both at work and at home. Great! Make hay while the sun shines!

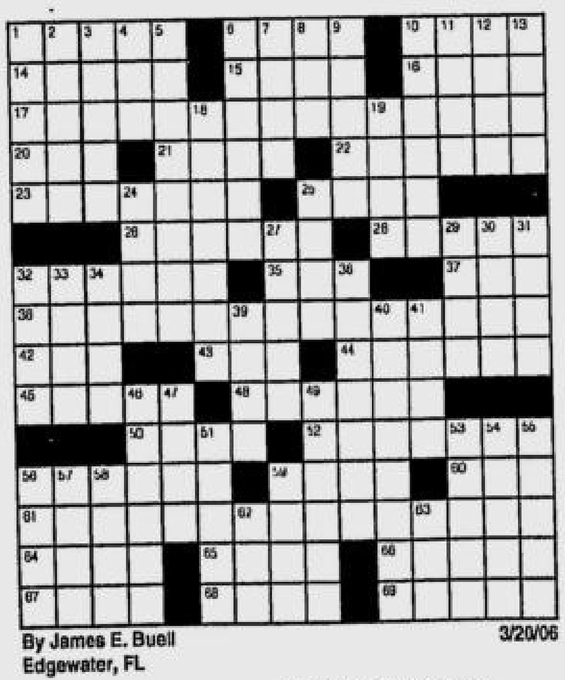
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): The next few weeks are a lovely, playful, flirtatious time for you. Accept invitations to parties; get out and schmooze with friends.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): Now is the time to swing your focus to home, family and domestic matters. Parents assume a greater role in your life. You want to solidify your home base.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): You have a busy month ahead. Errands, short trips, conversations with others, increased time with siblings plus wheeling and dealing keep your dance card full!

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): In the next few weeks, you're giving a lot of thought to money, possessions and what it is you really want in life. First you have to figure out what makes you happy.

DAILY CROSSWORD



By James E. Buell
Edgewater, FL

3/20/06

ACROSS
1 __-Saxon
6 Brewery supply
10 City near Phoenix
14 Matthau's love in "Grumpier Old Men"
15 Eye part
16 Event for all comers
17 Pour it on
20 "__ Pinafore"
21 Bird crop
22 All-seeing one
23 Headache remedy
25 Persian word?
26 Annoy
28 Cut corners
32 James of "Boston Legal"
35 Musician's asset
37 Olds creation
38 Pour it on
42 Brynner of "Westworld"
43 In addition
44 Full of spirit
45 Sad piece
48 Overthrows
50 Chimed
52 Now hold on!
56 Esoteric
59 Shuttle grp.
60 Cover
61 Pour it on
64 School on the Thames
65 Eat fancily
66 Irregularly worn
67 Studio structures
68 Words from a pro?
69 Was deserving

DOWN
1 Omega's opposite
2 Averages
3 Comprehend
4 Kauai souvenir
5 In camera range
6 "Teenage __ Ninja Turtles"
7 Declare openly
8 Consent to
9 Western resort lake
10 Schenectady's river
11 Larger-than-life
12 Move merchandise
13 Pony up
18 Neighbor of Djibouti
19 Aphrodite's child
24 Of India: pref.
25 Small-minded
27 West Yorkshire city
29 Spring bloom
30 Hook up
31 Floral arrangement
32 Eyelid woe
33 The Beatles bassist
34 Rod in a rod
36 Invigorate
39 Comfy
40 Habitual criminal
41 Dorothy or Lillian
46 Cereals
47 Sudden pull
49 Applications
51 Impoverished
53 "The Naming of Cats" poet
54 Shampooing step
55 Sidled
56 Becomes mellower
57 Mechanical learning
58 Coagulate
59 1492 caravel
62 Fabrication
63 FDR's Blue Eagle

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

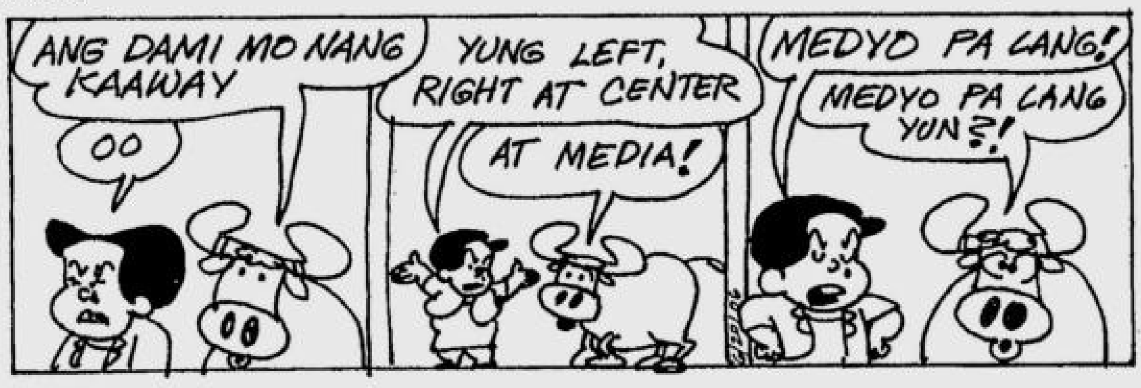
D	E	R	I	V	[illegible]	■	E	M	E	R	A	L	D	S
I	C	E	M	E	N	■	G	A	L	I	L	E	A	N
V	O	L	A	N	T	■	O	L	D	F	L	A	M	E
I	N	A	M	O	R	A	T	A	■	F	O	S	S	A
D	O	T	■	M	A	D	R	I	D	■	W	E	E	K
E	M	I	R	■	P	O	I	S	E	S	■	S	L	Y
R	I	V	A	L	■	S	P	E	C	I	E	■	■	■
S	C	E	N	I	C	■	■	■	K	N	E	L	L	S
■	■	■	D	E	A	T	H	S	■	E	L	I	O	T
S	A	P	■	U	N	H	O	O	K	■	S	T	O	A
C	U	R	S	■	S	I	T	A	R	S	■	I	S	M
A	R	I	E	L	■	S	T	R	A	T	A	G	E	M
R	O	O	M	E	T	T	E	■	A	R	C	A	N	E
A	R	R	I	V	A	L	S	■	L	I	N	T	E	L
B	A	S	S	I	N	E	T	■	S	P	E	E	D	S

(C)2006 Tribune Media Services, Inc
All rights reserved.

3/20/06

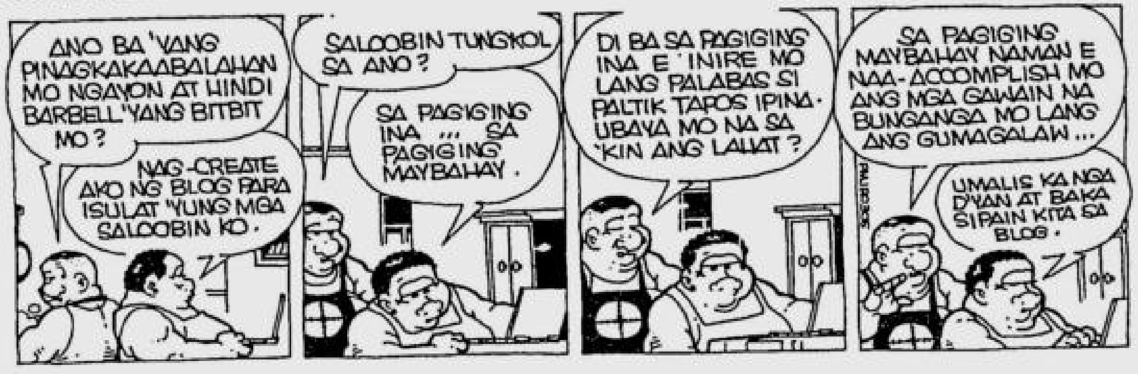
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


ANG DAMI MO NANG KAAWAY
OO
YUNG LEFT, RIGHT AT CENTER
AT MEDIA!
MEDYO PA LANG!
MEDYO PA LANG YUN?!

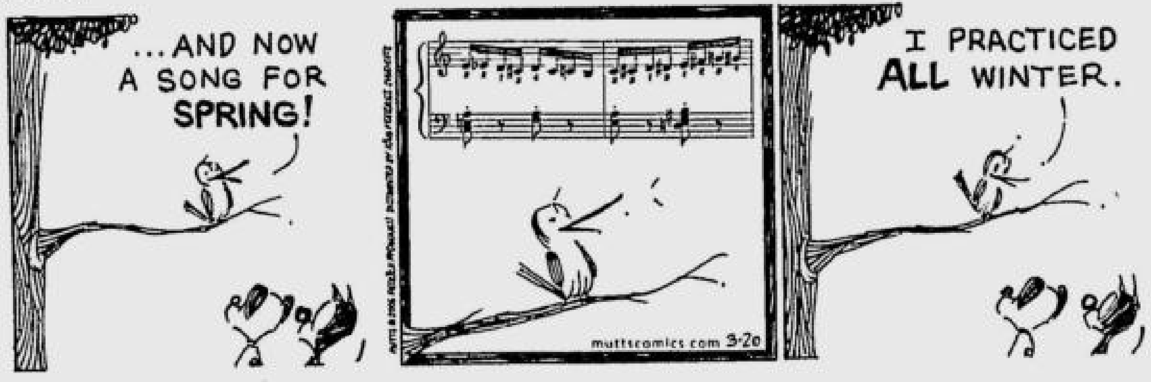
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


ANO BA 'YANG PINAGKAKAABALAHAN MO NGAYON AT HINDI BARBELL 'YANG BITBIT MO?
NAG-CREATE AKO NG BLOG PARA ISULAT 'YUNG MGA SALOOBIN KO.
SALOOBIN TUNGKOL SA ANO?
SA PAGIGING INA ... SA PAGIGING MAYBAHAY.
DI BA SA PAGIGING INA E INIRE MO LANG PALABAS SI PALTIK TAPOS IPINAUBAYA MO NA SA 'KIN ANG LAHAT?
SA PAGIGING MAYBAHAY NAMAN E NAA-ACCOMPLISH MO ANG MGA GAWAIN NA BUNGANGA MO LANG ANG GUMAGALAW...
UMALIS KA NGA D'YAN AT BAKA SIPAIN KITA SA BLOG.

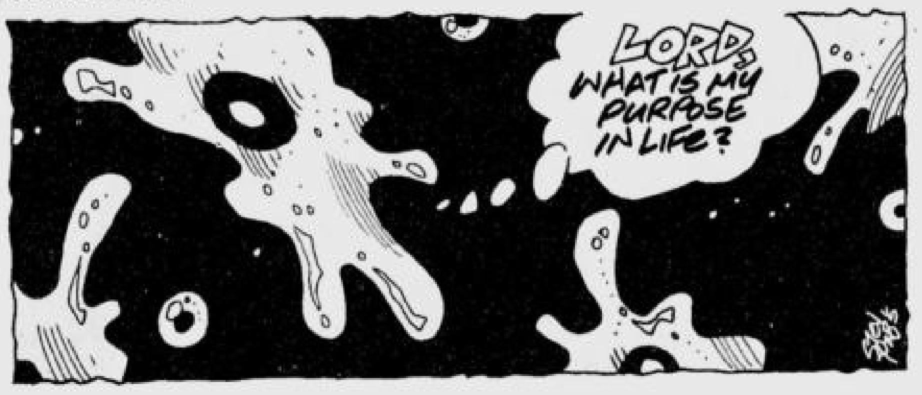
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


...AND NOW A SONG FOR SPRING!
muttscomics.com 3-20
I PRACTICED ALL WINTER.

DIVINE COMEDY

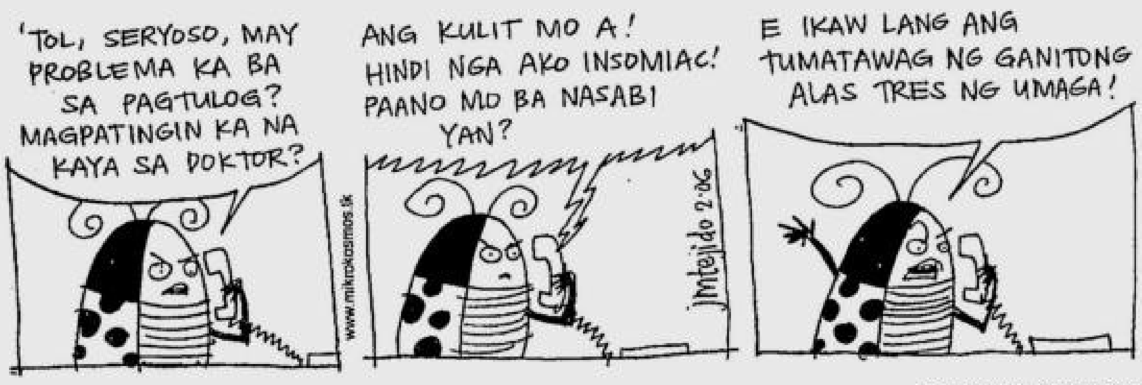
BY STEVEN PABALINAS


LORD, WHAT IS MY PURPOSE IN LIFE?

AN AMOEBA CONTEMPLATING THE MYSTERY OF LIFE

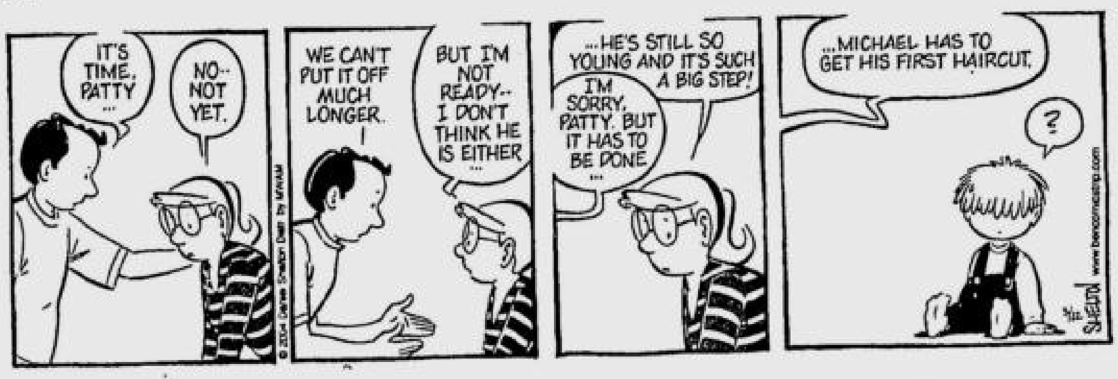
MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


'TOL, SERYOSO, MAY PROBLEMA KA BA SA PAGTULOG? MAGPATINGIN KA NA KAYA SA DOKTOR?
www.mikrokosmos.tk
ANG KULIT MO A! HINDI NGA AKO INSOMIAC! PAANO MO BA NASABI YAN?
jmtejido 2-06
E IKAW LANG ANG TUMATAWAG NG GANITONG ALAS TRES NG UMAGA!

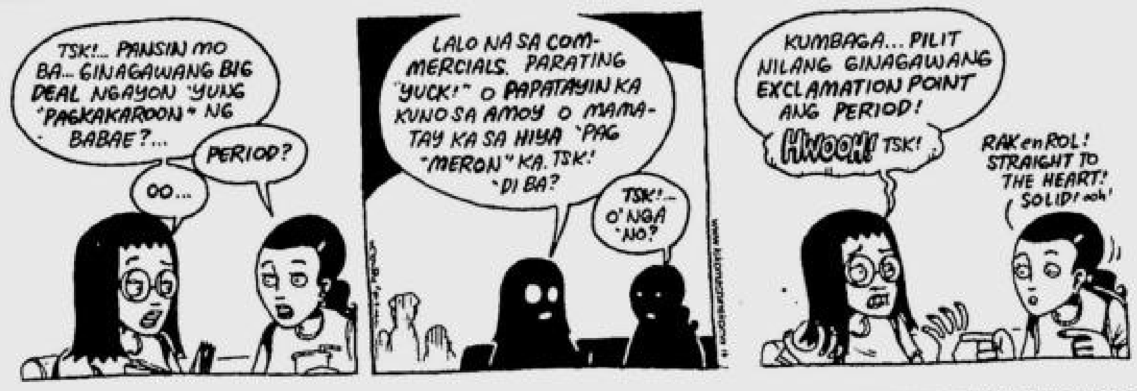
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


IT'S TIME, PATTY ...
NO-- NOT YET.
WE CAN'T PUT IT OFF MUCH LONGER.
BUT I'M NOT READY-- I DON'T THINK HE IS EITHER ...
...HE'S STILL SO YOUNG AND IT'S SUCH A BIG STEP!
I'M SORRY, PATTY. BUT IT HAS TO BE DONE ...
...MICHAEL HAS TO GET HIS FIRST HAIRCUT.
?

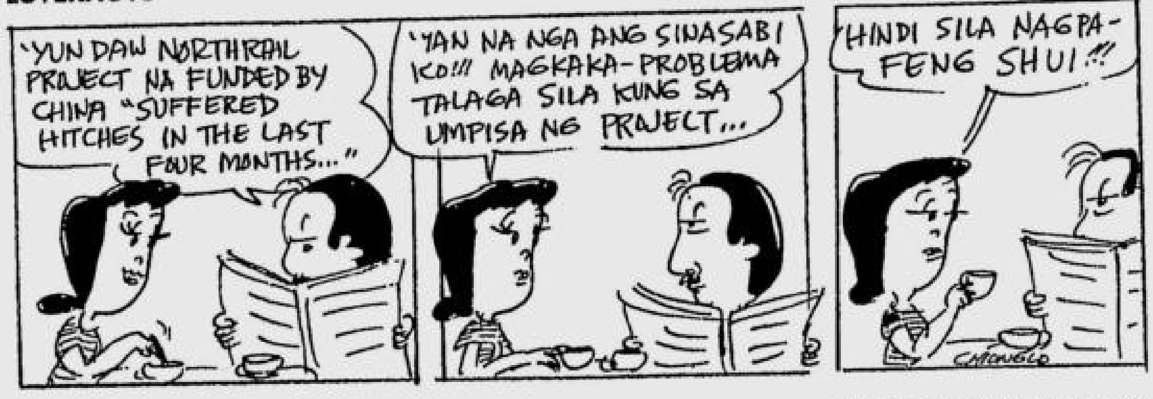
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


TSK!... PANSIN MO BA... GINAGAWANG BIG DEAL NGAYON 'YUNG "PAGKAKAROON" NG BABAE?...
PERIOD?
OO...
LALO NA SA COMMERCIALS. PARATING "YUCK!" O PAPATAYIN KA KUNO SA AMOY O MAMATAY KA SA HIYA 'PAG "MERON" KA. TSK! 'DI BA?
TSK!-- O'NGA 'NO?
KUMBAGA... PILIT NILANG GINAGAWANG EXCLAMATION POINT ANG PERIOD!
HWOOH! TSK!
RAK en ROL! STRAIGHT TO THE HEART! SOLID! ooh!

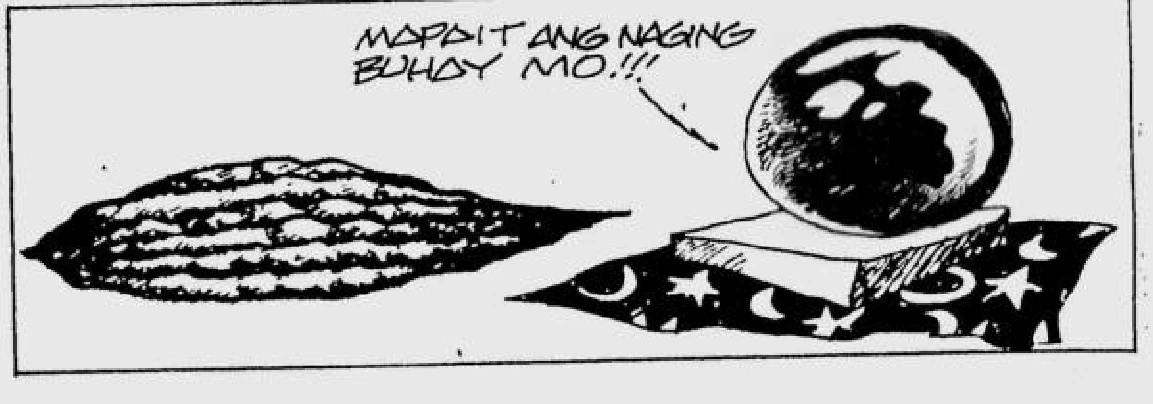
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


'YUN DAW NORTHRAIL PROJECT NA FUNDED BY CHINA "SUFFERED HITCHES IN THE LAST FOUR MONTHS..."
'YAN NA NGA ANG SINASABI KO!!! MAGKAKA-PROBLEMA TALAGA SILA KUNG SA UMPISA NG PROJECT...
HINDI SILA NAGPA-FENG SHUI!!!
CHIONGLO

TULDOK

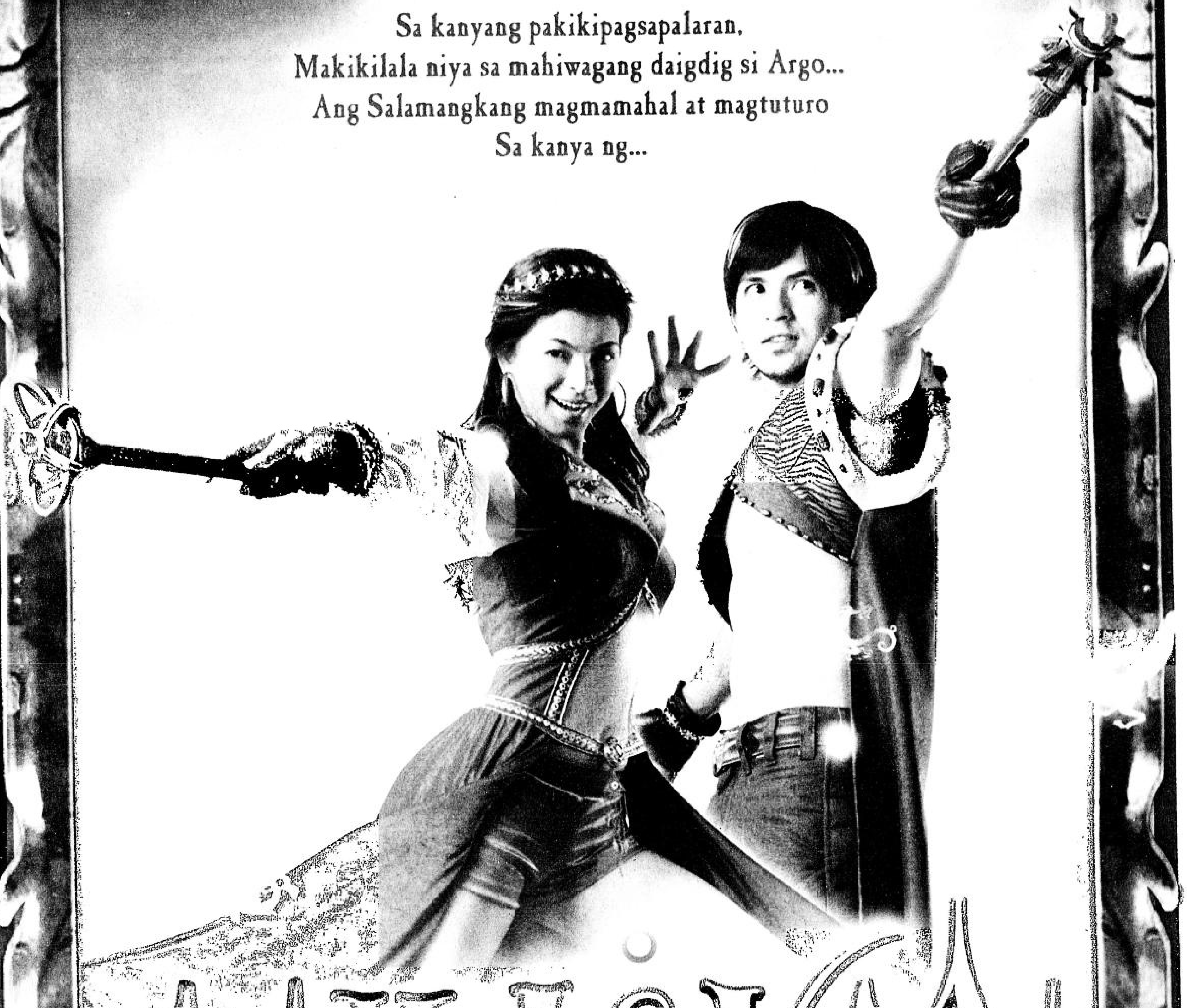
BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


MAPAIT ANG NAGING BUHAY MO!!!

Magbabago ang inyong daigdig!

Gagawin ni Sabina ang lahat,
Susuungin ang panganib at kamatayan
Masundan lang sa kaharian ng Salamangka
Ang pamilyang kinuha sa kanya
Noong siya'y musmos pa lamang.

Sa kanyang pakikipagsapalaran,
Makikilala niya sa mahiwagang daigdig si Argo...
Ang Salamangkang magmamahal at magtuturo
Sa kanya ng...



MAJIKA

Sa Puso Nagmumula ang Tunay na Kapangyarihan

Lunes-Biyernes 8:15 ng gabi
pagkatapos ng Extra Challenge

GMA

MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2006

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BUSINESS

Website: www.inq7money.net

Editor **Raul O. Marcelo** • Assistant Editor **Corrie S. Narisma**

Text us your feedback: Inquirer biz name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) **E-mail:** pr_business@inquirer.com.ph

ThinkPad R51e
Ultimate Mobility
at 1.35" thin weighing 6.0 lbs.
Call us now for a special price!
FREE limited offer
lenovo
INTEGRATED COMPUTER SYSTEMS, INC.
Tel. (632)727-3801 www.ics.com.ph

PC BUYER'S GUIDE
www.pcbuyersguide.com.ph
The No.1 Computer Magazine *in the Philippines
2004 National Shoppers' Choice Awards

Gov't to raise bond float by P100B

Authorities are hoping to borrow more from domestic market

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT, hoping to borrow more from the domestic market, has secured the approval of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas to increase its long-term peso bond float by as much as P100 billion.

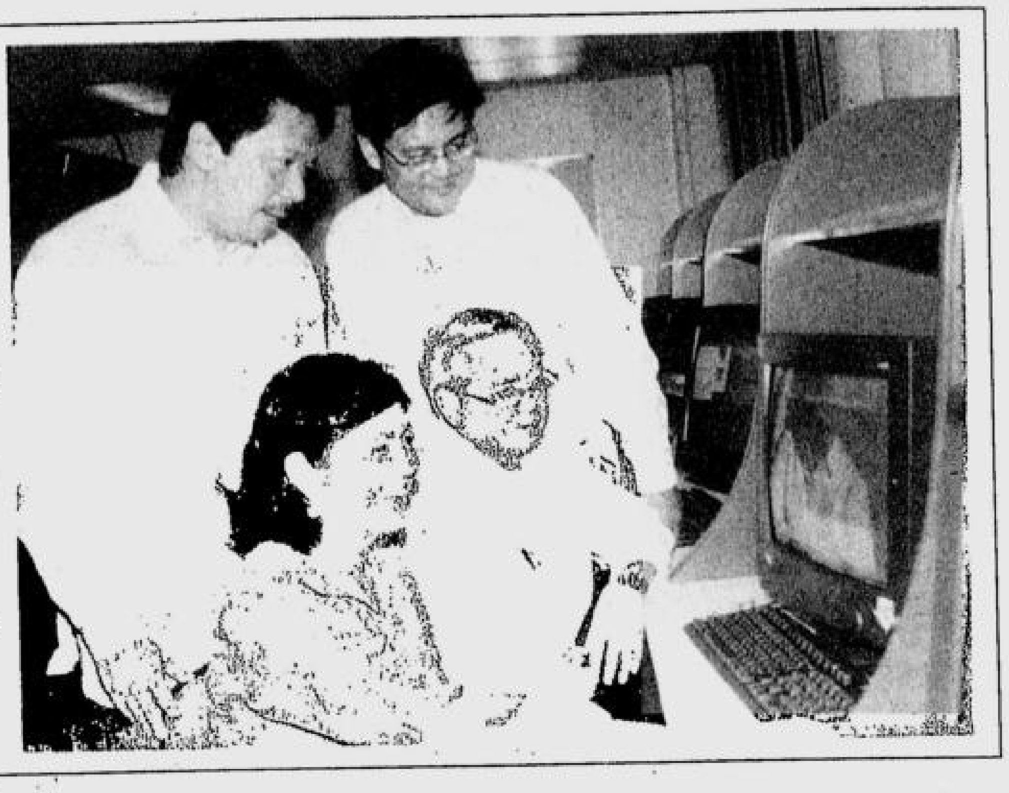
The BSP's policy-making Monetary Board gave the state a standby authority to issue P100 billion more in fresh Treasury bonds during its meeting last Thursday.

The next day, the Development Budget Coordination Committee agreed to revise the government's borrowing mix to favor more domestic issuances, government sources said.

A member of the DBCC's executive technical board said the inter-agency council on Friday agreed to further amend the government's borrowing mix in favor of domestic financing.

For every P1 worth of financing requirement,

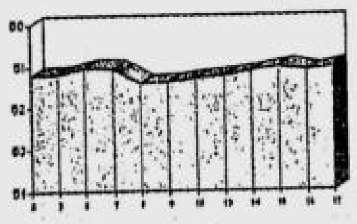
GOV'T/B11



TECH TOOLS FOR SMES
A new business technology center has been set for small and medium enterprises, allowing them access to business and technology expertise. On hand at the opening are Carissa P. Cruz of the trade department and Virgilio Peña of the Commission on Information and Communications Technology (seated). Looking on are Antonio Javier of Microsoft Philippines, and Ricky Banaag of Intel Philippines.

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES



P 51.04 = $1
As of 5 p.m., March 17, 2006

¥ 116.68 = $1
As of 5 p.m., March 17, 2006

GOLD: $551.10-551.60
per ounce Hong Kong, March 16, 2006

Slow week ahead

STOCKS MAY SUCCUMB TO SOME PROFIT-taking this week, some analysts said, following the run-up that marked last week's trading. AB Capital Securities said that since the market has moved up in the last six sessions, there may be some room for technical correction. "The technical indicators are giving a mixed

SLOW/B13

BSP issues tougher set of guidelines for 'problem' banks

THE BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS is getting tougher on problem banks by plotting a stricter framework that will require these institutions to undertake "prompt corrective action" at the first sign of weakness.

The BSP's policy-making Monetary Board recently approved the stiffer set of guidelines that will zero in on the weakest in the banking system and force these institutions to undertake remedial measures once they fall below the standards set.

"This is so that the problems would not worsen," BSP Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. told reporters. "At an early stage, a bank should already take steps to strengthen its financial position.

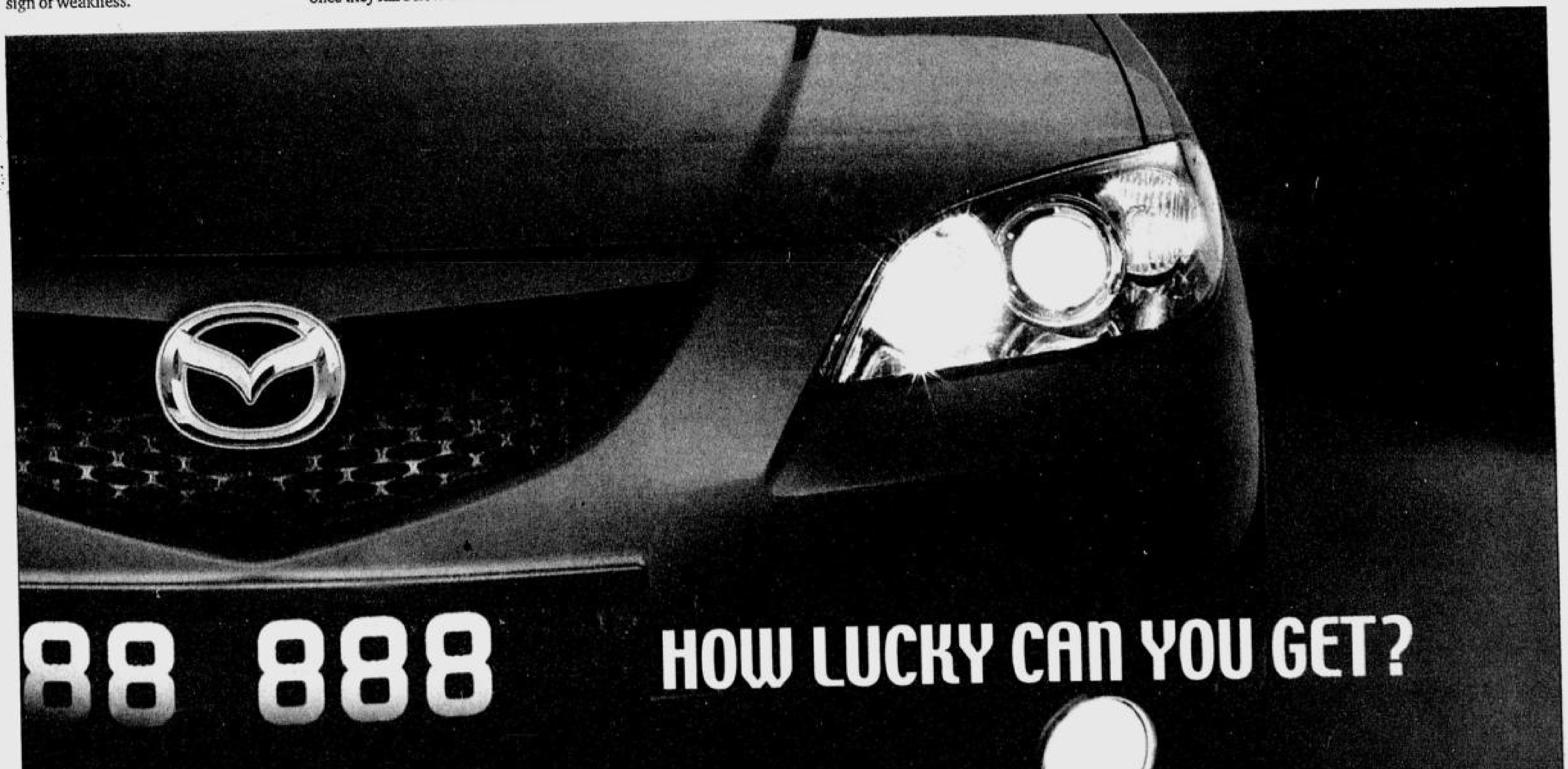
"These steps will be contained in a plan of action which will be in a memorandum of agreement that will be signed by the bank's board of directors and BSP."

Tetangco said the new PCA framework

BIR/B11

WHAT'S INSIDE

Tessie's counter-gambit /B3
ING expects peso to further appreciate to 45:$1 /B6



88 888
HOW LUCKY CAN YOU GET?

Drive home your new Mazda3 for a low downpayment of only ₱88,888 -- and still avail of low monthly payments!
₱18,888 for 48 months for the Mazda 1.6L S 4door or
₱19,888 for 48 months for the Mazda 1.6L V
For an additional fee of only P3,000 a month, get MAZDA SOLUTIONS for 48 months, inclusive of the following:
- Comprehensive Vehicle Insurance
- Emergency Roadside Assistance
- Extended Warranty
- Scheduled Service Plan

Promo financing available through Mazda Credit only. Subject to credit approval.
Promo extended up to March 31, 2006 as approved by DTI-NCR.

mazda Credit mazda Solutions
For every Mazda vehicle sold, P1,000 goes to the road safety program.
zoom-zoom
For more info please contact Mazda Credit: 635-1253 **Mazda Alabang** Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang-Zapote Road, Alabang, Muntinlupa City, Tel. no. 772-3168, Fax 772-3170 **Mazda Greenhills** 202 EDSA cor. Rochester Street, Greenhills East, Mandaluyong City, Tel. no. 722-1102, Fax 722-1138 • **Mazda Quezon Avenue** 721 Quezon Ave., Sto. Domingo, Quezon City, Tel. no. 712-3355, Fax 742-2080 • **Mazda Makati** 2723 Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo), Makati City, Tel. no. 751-2235 to 36, Fax 751-2237
Per DTI NCR Permit No. 0559, Series of 2006.
mazda

Because you deserve more for your US Dollars...

Amount of Placement	30 Days	60 Days	90 Days	180 Days	360 Days
$1,000 to less than $10,000	3.80%	3.90%	4.00%	4.10%	4.20%
$10,000 to less than $50,000	4.20%	4.30%	4.40%	4.50%	4.60%
$50,000 and above	4.70%	4.80%	4.90%	5.00%	5.10%

Rates quoted are subject to change without prior notice.

For a branch near you, call (02) 521-7451 or (02) 523-7777 loc. 182
Member MEGALINK & PDIC. Deposits insured up to P250,000.
Maybank

Motorcycle firms push for standards

By Ronnel W. Domingo

MOTORCYCLE MANufacturers are pushing for the standardization of global regulations related to the industry due to growing sales, particularly in Asia and the Philippines.

Data from the Singapore-based Federation of Asian Motorcycle Industries showed that bike sales in the region were up 18.6 percent to about 16.8 million units in 2005 from about 14.2 million in the previous year.

Philippine turnover outpaced that of the region with an increase of 20.3 percent to some 493,000 units last year from about 410,000 in 2004.

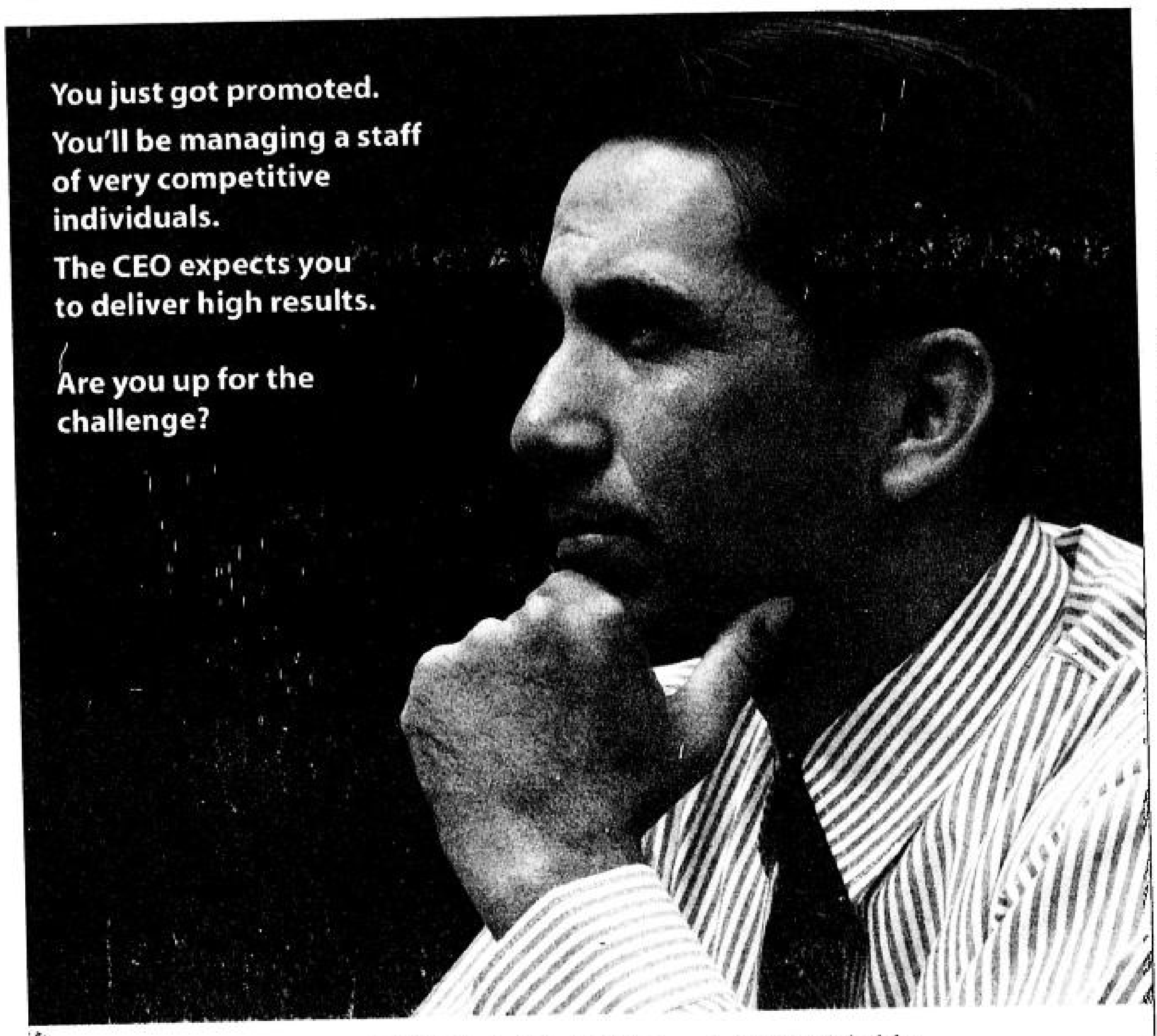
Regional sales accounted for about 92 percent of some 18.4 million units produced by all eight members of FAMI last year.

FAMI groups national organizations Asosiasi Industri Sepeda Motor Indonesia, Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association, Motorcycle and Scooter Assemblers and Distributors Association of Malaysia, Motorcycle Development Program Participants Association of the Philippines, Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers, Singapore Motor Cycle Trade Association, Thai Automotive Industry Association, and Taiwan Transportation Vehicle Manufacturers.

FAMI leaders gathered in Makati City last Saturday for their annual meeting as well as to cement an agreement with counterparts in the International Motorcycle Manufacturers Association to join the Geneva-based global group.

Mohammed Aidid, FAMI president, said in a briefing that his group's decision to join IMMA meant that FAMI had accepted a bigger role in the development of the world industry.

Mohammed said the industry was generally growing worldwide and that its major concerns were road safety and environmental protection.



You just got promoted.
You'll be managing a staff of very competitive individuals.
The CEO expects you to deliver high results.

Are you up for the challenge?

THE COUNTRY'S FIRST AND ONLY
MANAGEMENT SIMULATION
TRAINING SERIES

The higher you go up the ranks, the higher the stakes. Thankfully, there's a system developed in Wharton School of Business that will train you in true-to-life business situations to help you succeed. Through state-of-the-art simulators, you learn management and leadership skills by making decisions and executing policies. So when it's your time to get on board as a top-rank executive, you are sharp as a whip.

First Public Run:
LEADING TEAMS TO SUCCESS
March 30, 2006
30th Floor, Petron Mega Plaza
358 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue
Makati City

SMG Strategic Management Group, Inc.
iACADEMY
CMC Business Solutions, Inc.

Training Schedule:

May 18	Coaching for Growth
July 19-20	Project Leadership
Sept 27-28	Business Acumen
Nov 23	Collaborative Negotiations

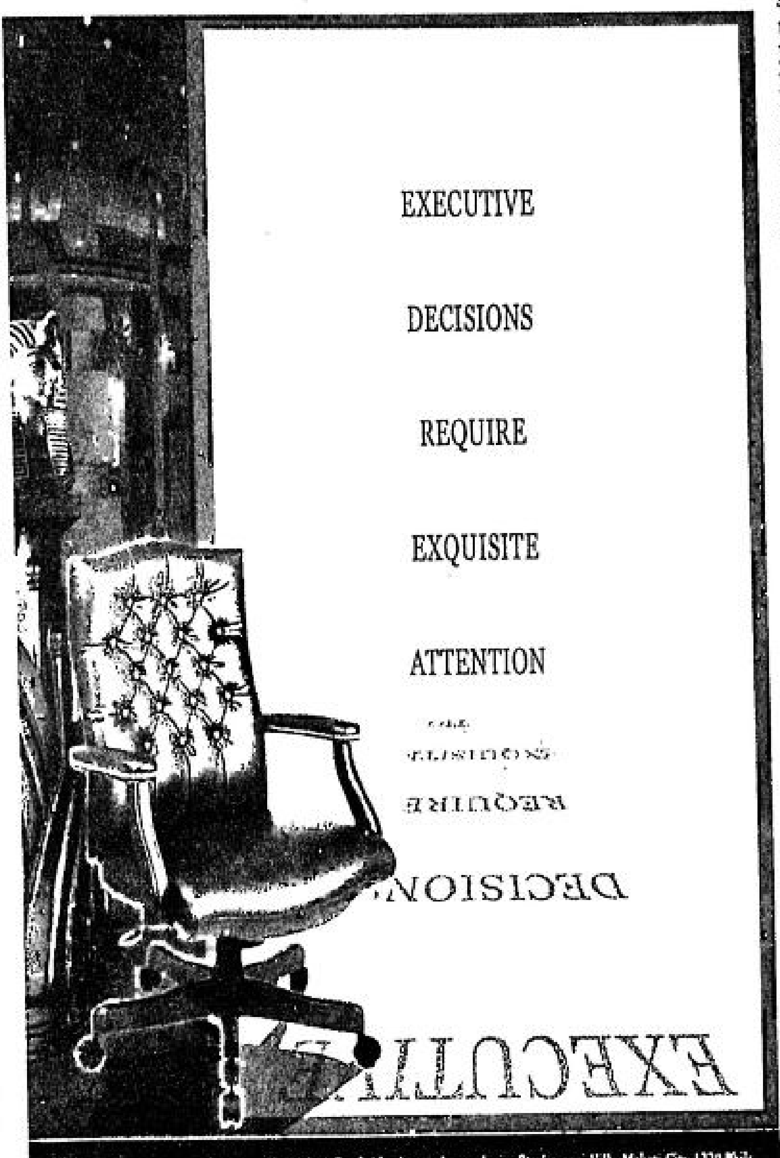
Other Training Modules:

Leadership Focus
- Essentials of Business Leadership
- Leading Strategy into Action
- Making Conflict Work
- Managing Change

Project Management Focus
- Tools and Techniques
- Business Skills for Project Managers
- Leading Project Leaders
- PEAT Assessment

On how to avail of this first of its kind training seminar contact:
Ms. Grace Soledad at 887-8447 loc. 5101
Fax No.: 891-3734 • E-mail: gsoledad@stlhq.net

Get a feel of the actual training: www.smgine.com/PL_FlashDemo/master.html



PHARAOH
The Makati Creekside, Amorsolo cor. Javier St., Legaspi Vill., Makati City 1229 Phils
Tel. Nos.: (632) 813-0921 to 25 * Fax: 813-0926 * Mobile: (0916) 308-5209
Website: pharaoh.ktvphil.com * email: pharaoh@ktvphil.com

We've got something in common...

A meticulous artist who inspires through his creations
–Joel, Abstract Painter
UITF Investor
A value seeker whose patronage for the arts yields classics
–Mae, Art Dealer
UITF Investor
Unit Investment Trust Fund (UITF)

We share the same passion for creative investments whose value grows over time.

Unit Investment Trust Fund (UITF) opens doors of opportunities for all kinds of investment needs. UITFs are offered in a wide range of fund types: money market, fixed income, balanced and equity, in Philippine Peso and U.S. Dollar in a variety of minimum amount of contributions. With over 60 UITFs to choose from, there are funds that suit your investment goal, time horizon and risk-reward appetite. And with teams of expert investment managers from the country's leading banks, you can trust them to optimize the return on your money.

Do you have the same passion? Ask your bank about Unit Investment Trust Funds today.

Conveniently accessible in more than 2,500 bank branches nationwide

BANCO DE ORO
BPI ASSET MANAGEMENT
Equitable PCI Your Bank of Choice
ING INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT
METROBANK TRUST BANKING
PBCom
Philippine National Bank
RCBC A YGC Member
RCBC Savings Bank A YGC Member
UCPB

A UITF awareness service brought to you by:
TRUST OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES
UBERRIMAE FIDEI
FOUNDED 1964
MANILA

Tessie's counter-gambit

COCKTALES

Victor C. Agustin

AMID RELENTLESS BOARDROOM MAneuverings and media snipings, an exasperated Teresita Sy has indicated that she is all but ready to agree to Winston Garcia's proposal and join GSIS, and possibly SSS, in selling the Sy group's stake in Equitable PCIBank.

PLDT's Manuel V. Pangilinan, in the meantime, denied that he and his First Pacific Group ever expressed interest in taking control of Equitable PCIBank.

"We are not in any discussion with any of the shareholders of the bank—not one or more of the SSS, GSIS or the Sy family—in respect of acquiring their stake," MVP said.

MVP, who was reached in Hong Kong on Saturday, said he also sent the same texted reply to the SM heiress and to Corazon de la Paz, president of the Social Security System and Equitable PCIBank chair.

MVP's name and that of the First Pacific Group cropped up after MVP, a former banker himself, had been noted asking key Equitable PCIBank stakeholders "discreet questions" about the bank's conditions.

Sy, in the meantime, gave Garcia two weeks, or up to the end of the month, to produce a written binding offer for the SM/Banco de Oro's estimated 34 percent stake in Equitable PCIBank.

Sy's terms: Cash, and no due diligence.

Should Garcia's mystery buyer agree to Sy's terms, the mall queen would have, in just a year, doubled her initial investment in the disputed bank to salve her bruised ego and thwarted ambition.

As of mid-2005, Equitable PCIBank had slightly over 727 million outstanding shares; at P95 each, the Sy block would already be worth nearly P23.5 billion.

Throwing in the 12 percent of the Government Service Insurance System and the adjusted 25 percent of the SSS, the entire deal could be worth more than P49 billion, not counting the additional P20 billion that Garcia's mystery buyer would have to provide for the mandatory tender offer for the rest of Equitable PCIBank's minority shareholders.

(Garcia, however, claims the cash needed for mandatory tender offer for the minority stake should not be over P6 billion, since seven percent of the balance, held by the family of bank vice chair Ferdinand Martin Romualdez, is still sequestered, while 10 percent is being held by the bank in disputed treasury shares.)

One senior banker, commenting on the scale of the continuing boardroom saga, said: "For a moment, I thought he (Winston) was bluffing, but things seem to be turning his way. Asking price is way out, but someone out there may be drunk enough to throw money at it even at that outrageous price."

Mike boys' cash cow

THE MESTIZO relatives of Mike Arroyo, now lording it over cash-rich Philcomsat Holdings Corp., have asked for another indefinite postponement of the publicly listed company.

The octogenarian head of PHC, Manuel Nieto, has written the Securities and Exchange Commission to reconsider its order directing the contested corporation to hold the already much delayed election, its first since August 2004.

With the SEC and the Supreme Court's decisions, it is only a matter of time before Nieto, his nephew and Mike Arroyo cousin Benito Araneta and fellow Malacañang nominee, Free Press publisher Enrique "Henry" Locsin, lose control of POTC because of their reduced PCGG shareholdings.

Despite being hardly traded, POTC sits on over P1.2 billion in cash it inherited during the Estrada years. POTC corporate secretary Louie Lokin at that time admitted that the bulk of the cash had been deposited at Bank Wise, the troubled savings bank that has transferred ownership from Erap cronies to Mike Arroyo allies.

Araneta was lately seen meeting with top Bank Wise officials at the Makati Shangri-la, amid a request from Philippine Veterans Bank for the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp. to extend P3 billion in assistance in exchange for PVB being asked to help the troubled thrift bank.

Heard through the grapevine

A GROUP of ticked-off La Salle alumni and donors met with Bro. Armin Luistro last week to express their displeasure over the religious official being part of the "hakot-padasal" brigade and using the school facilities for the oust-GMA campaign. The meeting was held in the Phinma penthouse office of former Finance Secretary Ramon del Rosario Jr.

(Email: cocktales_pdi@pldtdsl.net or cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com)

LG Named Global No. 1 Air Conditioner

For six consecutive years since 2000, LG Electronics' air-conditioner was proclaimed GLOBAL No. 1 by the Japan Air-Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration News (JARN). In the banner story of its latest newsletter publication released worldwide to over 300 countries, LG Electronics remained on top of its competitors by posting a high 45% difference in global sales over its nearest competitor.

LG Electronics' air-conditioner has also posted 10 million units sales for two consecutive years since 2004.

2000~2005 Global No.1

Local Recognitions and Awards
Similarly, LG Electronics Philippines received two distinguished commendations and awards from the Consumer Group Philippines and the Union of Consumer Watch in October and November, 2005 respectively.

NATIONAL PRODUCT QUALITY EXCELLENCE Awards

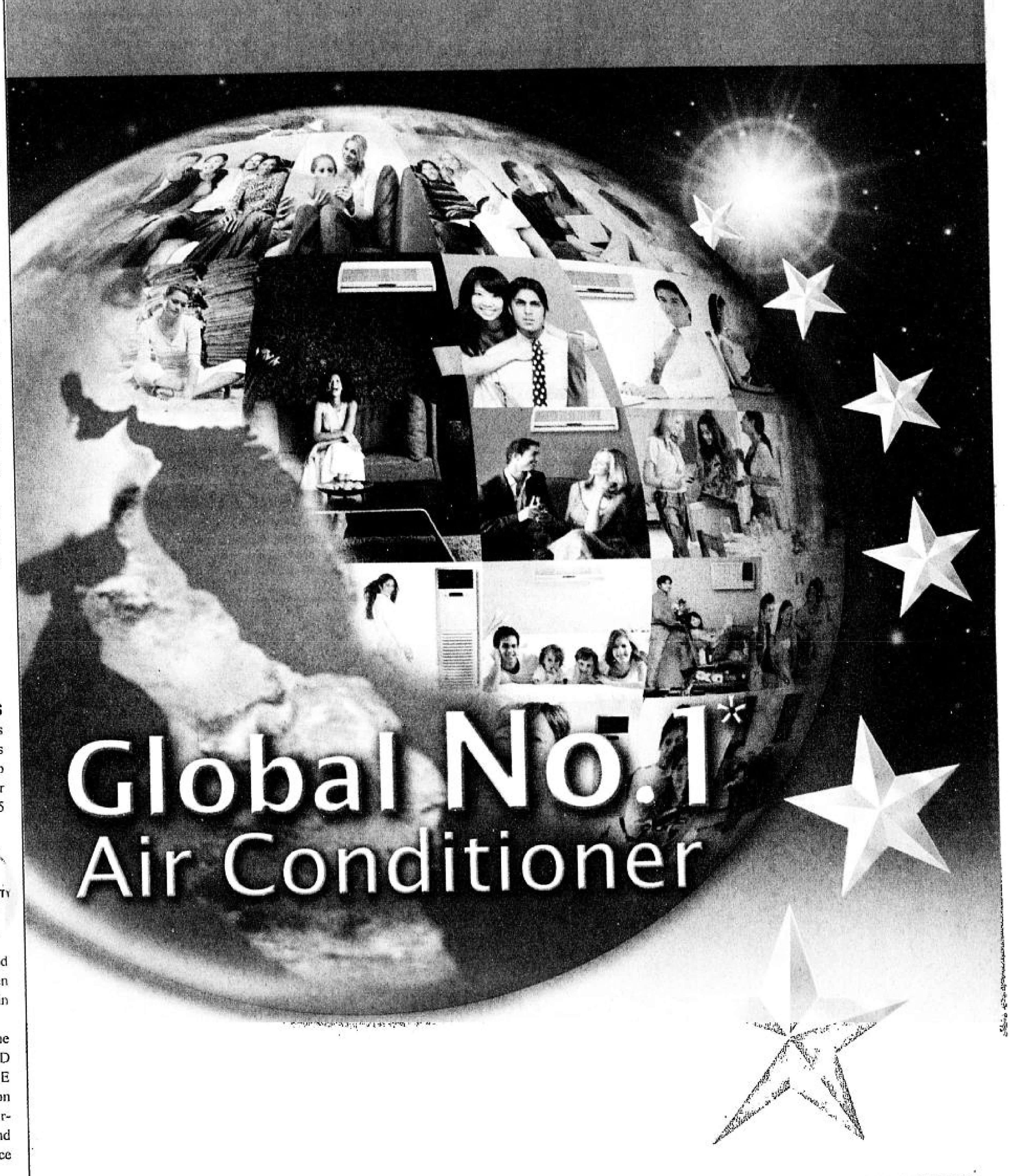
GOLD FIN Technology
Since the mid-1990s, LGE air conditioners have remained the top choice by consumers around the world. LGE boasts of breakthrough and pioneering technologies which have been the driving force behind LGE's success in the air-conditioning industry.

Among its key features, and unique only to LGE air conditioners, is the GOLD FIN Anti-Rust Coating Technology. LGE Gold Fin is a coating of a layer of gold on aluminum and applied on every LGE air-conditioning unit to prevent corrosion and keep the unit's appearance and performance staying as good as new.

5 on 5 warranty
5 Year Warranty on 5 Major Parts

5-on-5 Warranty
All purchases of LGE air-conditioners come with a full 5-on-5 Warranty which includes a 5-year coverage on not just the compressor but four other parts that include the condenser, evaporator, adjoining tubes and connectors.

More Innovations from LGE
In late October 2005, LGE unveiled its new MPS environment-friendly inverter system, the "Multi-V Plus" and "eco V". The environment-friendly MPS (Multi-Power System) inverter system, the first of its kind in the Philippines, uses environment-friendly refrigerant "R-410A" which does not destroy or harm the ozone layer. The relevant market for the new product is rapidly increasing in accordance with Indoor Air Quality management laws that took effect in early January 2006, and the implementation of the Housing Performance Grade Marking System.

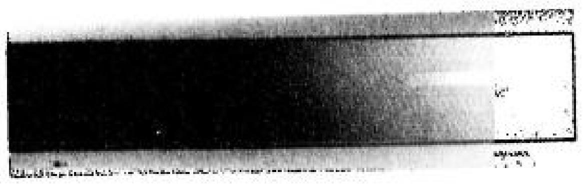


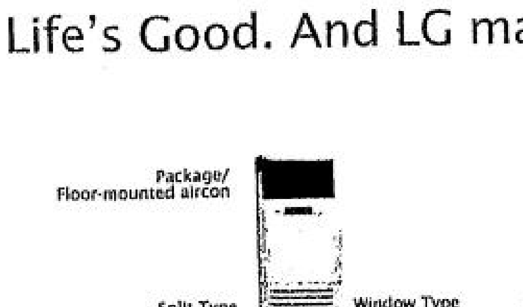
*OVER 10 MILLION UNITS SOLD WORLDWIDE.

LG is the Global No.1 air conditioner for 6 years running.

LG does more than cool air. More than 27,000 daily new owners worldwide are benefiting from its High Energy Efficient Ratio (EER), thus more savings on electricity consumption.

Life's Good. And LG makes it happen for you.





JARN

5 on 5 warranty

* According to Japan -based Fuji-Keizai (Fuji Economy Research Institute), LG sold approximately 10,500,000 units of air conditioners, taking up the largest market share in the approximately 60,420,000 unit-size industry. Research results of Fuji-Keizai are published annually on JARN (Japan Air Conditioning, Heating & Refrigeration News).

LG
Life's Good

LG Electronics Philippines No. 15 F. Legaspi St., Maybunga, Pasig City • Tel. Nos. 641-4181 to 85 Fax Nos. 640-0406, 641-9486 CIC Hotline 640-2525 0917-8242525 0920-9002525

http://ph.lge.com

Scorecard on jobs, prices

NO FREE LUNCH

Cielito F. Habito

AS I LIKE TO TELL MY AUDIences, the three main things the common Filipino cares about regarding the economy are prices, jobs and income, in that order, according to popular surveys.

Data on prices are available every month, with a time lag of five days. Data on jobs and income (as measured by output or GDP) come only once every quarter, and with a time lag of about two months.

The jobs data for the January 2006 labor and employment survey just came out last week. The latest data on prices and inflation came out earlier this month, while current GDP data won't be available for another two months. Thus I'll have to leave out output and income from this scorecard for now.

So what's the latest score on these basic indicators on the economy?

Jobs picture mixed

Latest data show either a worsening or a slight improvement in the overall jobs situation, depending on your point of reference. Using the government's new definition of unemployment, the January unemployment rate of 8.1 percent is worse than the 7.4 percent reported in October 2005.

To compare with the year-ago figure, we need to use the old definition, which would show an improvement from 11.3 percent in January 2005 to 10.7 percent in January 2006.

It's probably easier to appreciate the statistics if we look at the numbers of the jobs themselves. The same report says that 750,000 new jobs were generated in the past year, i.e. between January 2005 and January 2006.

This is not good news, if you consider how this falls far short of the one million new jobseekers who join the labor force every year. It is for this reason that the government has been targeting six to 10 million new jobs in the 2005-2010 period of the current Medium Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP).

Low job quality

There are more challenges. The underemployment rate—or the proportion of the employed workers whose jobs are inadequate—has risen further to 21.3 percent, higher than last October (21.2 percent), and much higher than last year (16.1 percent).

This can only mean that the jobs generated in the past year fell short not only in quantity, but also in quality. There is further evidence of this. Of the 750,000 new jobs created, more than half (389,000) were in the form of unpaid family workers, the bulk of it in agriculture (314,000).

The other big portion of new jobs (263,000) came from the self-employed, most of it likely to be in the informal sector or the so-called "underground economy." Only 98,000 jobs that pay wages or salaries were created, a mere 13 percent of the new jobs.

Note that about half (16.2 million or 50.1 percent) of our currently employed workers are wage and salary workers. If these types of workers are now only increasing by the tens of thousands, while the informally employed are increasing by the hundreds of thousands, the share of those in more formal employment must be deteriorating.

Furthermore, over one-third (12 million out of a total 32 million) of the workers were in part-time jobs, that is, worked less than 40 hours a week or 8 hours a day. And over one third of these part-timers (4.4 million) worked less than half-time. In short, we don't only need to create more jobs, we need to create better jobs as well.

Wrong move

Across the regions, Metro Manila stands out as having the highest unemployment rate (15 percent), almost twice the national average. Also exceeding the national average are Calabarzon with 10.2 percent, Central Luzon with 9.7 percent, and Ilocos with 9.1 percent.

On the other hand, the lowest unemployment rates were posted in Cagayan Valley (3.2 percent), ARMM (3.3 percent), and the Zamboanga Peninsula (3.7 percent).

All this only goes to show that people from far-flung regions who keep flocking to Metro Manila and its surrounding provinces hoping to find a better life are probably doing the wrong thing. They are likely to end up jobless and in worse poverty—not to mention worse health and security from the pollution and criminality they will have to contend with.

Prices picking up

The inflation rate jumped up from 6.7 percent in January to 7.6 percent in February, a result being attributed to the imposition of the 2 percentage point hike in the VAT rate.

But a closer examination would indicate that there must be more to it than the higher VAT, as prices of food, which is mostly VAT-exempt, accelerated by almost as much as non-food prices did.

Whatever it was, price increases have been speeding up since 2003, when the inflation rate had held steady at about 3 percent for two years, but picked up to 5.5 percent in 2004, and on to 7.6 last year.

The price outlook remains somewhat hazy, as much of it depends on factors beyond our control, especially world oil prices which have been rather volatile lately. On the other hand, the strengthening of the peso has been a positive influence on prices.

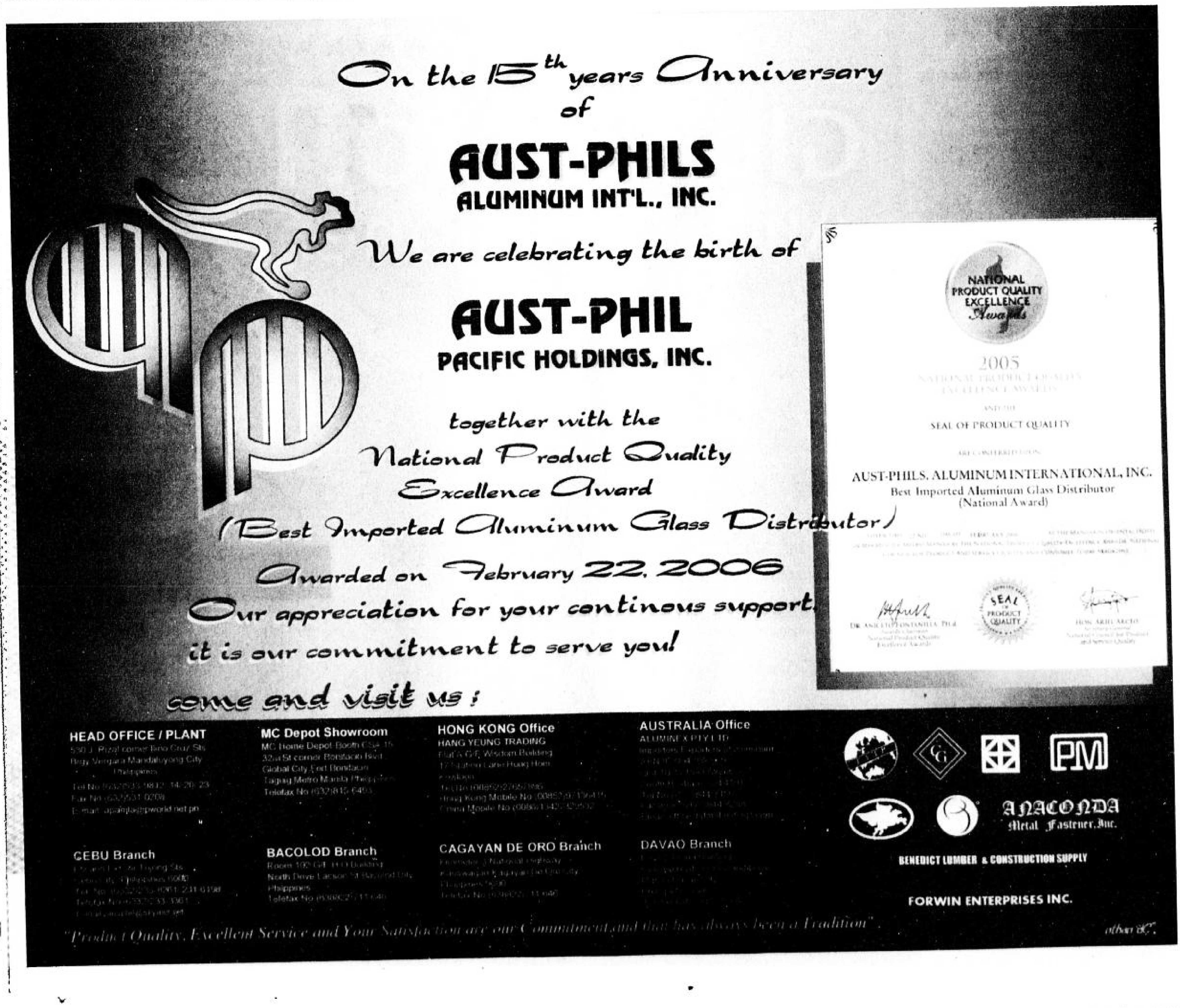
But don't jump for joy on this: it comes at the cost of more fundamental challenges to the jobs, livelihoods and purchasing power of millions of Filipinos in the export sectors, domestic manufacturing, and OFW families. Yet another manifestation of that age-old economic maxim: you can't have a free lunch. *(Comments welcome at chabito@ateneo.edu.)*

AS LOW AS ₱250 FREE ESTIMATE! FAX REPAIR
Panasonic NEC SAMSUNG SANYO MURATA SHARP OKI NISSEI Canon OTHERS
ALSO REPAIR COMPUTERS, PRINTERS, MONITORS, TYPEWRITERS, TV, AUDIO VIDEO, AND OTHER OFFICE EQUIPMENTS.
KCS KINGS
CUT THIS AD AND AVAIL OF A 15% DISCOUNT
G-04 Auro-Vir Plaza, 1695 Evangelista St., Bangkal, MAKATI CITY 894-2309 843-6630 843-6662
G/F, Anita Bldg., Timog cor. Quezon Ave., QUEZON CITY 374-7963 374-5296

THE REPAIR SPECIALISTS
Fax Machines • Computers • Monitors • Printers (Laser, Deskjet, Dot Matrix) • Key Telephone Systems • Bundy Clock • Answering Machines • Paper Shredders • UPS-AVRs • Typewriters and other office equipments
Panasonic EPSON SHARP OKI XEROX ViewSonic NTC AOC SANYO brother muratec Canon
CITIWORLD BUSINESS MACHINES SERVICES CORP.
GUARANTEED 60 MINS. SERVICES RESPONSE
Main Office: Lower Ground, David 1 Building, 567 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City
Tel. Nos.: 725-7031 / 724-5823 / 723-4894
Makati Office: L/G UNIT 10, STAR CENTRUM BLDG., SEN. G. PUYAT AVE., COR. MALUGAY ST., MAKATI CITY
Tel. Nos.: 892-0718 / 892-7585

A HEART ATTACK IS FATAL
BE READY IF IT STRIKES!
OXYLITE PORTABLE OXYGEN
• Handy and Portable
• Ideal for travel
• Imported from U.S.A.
FAR EAST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
STAR MILLS PAMPANGA 2nd Floor (45) 636-3513
SM MANILA 5th Floor 484-1471
SM MEGAMALL 5th Flr., Bldg. A 635-0436
SM SOUTHMALL Basement 802 1565
SM NORTH EDSA Car Park Plaza 453 3326
SM FAIRVIEW Basement 418-7540
ROBINSONS GALLERIA Basement 635-5061
CEBU 417-8286

Roland
The No. 1 Choice of Signmakers around the World.
Panalo ka sa Kakaibang STICKER MAKING
Point-of-Purchase
Cut vinyl signage
T-shirt Transfers
Product Labels
Auto decals
Print & Cut in One Machine
Available in 30" & 54"
PRINT & CUT single decal or bulk quantities cost-effectively!
• NO EXTRA COST on die-cutting
• NO EXTRA COST on color separation
• NO EXTRA COST on lamination
FREE TRAINING ON FLEET GRAPHICS • March 23, 2006 • Call now! 7263991 to 98
VersaCAMM is Roland's best-selling integrated print/cut solution and everything you could ask for in a low-cost digital printer. VersaCAMM delivers 4-color inkjet printing and precision digital die-cutting in one device. X4 INK is formulated to be almost entirely odor free and requires no special ventilation or environmental equipment, yet produces brilliant graphics that are water, scratch and UV resistant. The combination of an integrated heating system and X4 INK allows the VersaCAMM to print on a wide variety of commercially available media. Choose from uncoated vinyl materials for lower production costs - clear, white, metallic, reflective, tamper-proof seal, magnetic and fabric transfer - for dependable indoor and outdoor use.
Exclusive Distributor: Tgraf TEAM GRAPHICS Superior Technology!
Fax: 723-7761 www.tgraf.com.ph



On the 15th years Anniversary of
AUST-PHILS ALUMINUM INT'L., INC.
We are celebrating the birth of
AUST-PHIL PACIFIC HOLDINGS, INC.
together with the National Product Quality Excellence Award (Best Imported Aluminum Glass Distributor)
Awarded on February 22, 2006
Our appreciation for your continous support, it is our commitment to serve you!
NATIONAL PRODUCT QUALITY EXCELLENCE Awards
2005
SEAL OF PRODUCT QUALITY
AUST-PHILS. ALUMINUM INTERNATIONAL, INC.
Best Imported Aluminum Glass Distributor
(National Award)
come and visit us :
HEAD OFFICE / PLANT
MC Depot Showroom
HONG KONG Office
HANG YEUNG TRADING
AUSTRALIA Office
CEBU Branch
BACOLOD Branch
CAGAYAN DE ORO Branch
DAVAO Branch
ANACONDA Metal Fastener, Inc.
BENEDICT LUMBER & CONSTRUCTION SUPPLY
FORWIN ENTERPRISES INC.
"Product Quality, Excellent Service and Your Satisfaction are our Commitment and that has always been a Tradition".

Hotel gets incentives

By Ronnel W. Domingo

THE GOKONGWEI GROUP HAS SECURED tax perks and other incentives for its P1.5-billion Crowne Plaza Galleria Manila Hotel at the Ortigas Center.

Data from the Board of Investments showed that Robinsons Land Corp.'s project was the biggest in terms of cost among the projects approved under the agency's simplified registration process between Jan. 1 and March 10.

Trade Undersecretary Elmer C. Hernandez said that under the 2005 Investments Priorities Plan, investments related to tourism were a priority considering that there are not enough rooms available for foreign visitors.

He also said the project was given pioneer status because of the huge project cost.

"The IPP guidelines for the tourism sector provides that hotel projects that would spend at least $100,000 (about P5.3 million at the time of RBI's filing of application last year) a room or more are entitled to full incentives," Hernandez said.

With 265 rooms, Crowne Plaza exceeded the hurdle at P5.68 million for each room.

The project is expected to start full operation in October and will create 115 new jobs.

Preferred Dollar Plu$
Maximize Your Dollar Growth Potential!
Philam Equitable Life Assurance Company

Investment Funds of Variable Life Insurance Contracts	Valuation Date 03/16/2006	Valuation Date 03/09/2006
PELAC Dollar Bond Fund	US$ 1.1036	US$ 1.1056
PELAC Global Bond Fund	US$ 1.0640	US$ 1.0616

These investment funds are specific to variable life insurance contracts and are not considered mutual funds. Life insurance products are regulated by the Insurance Commission.

LEARN FROM THE EXPERTS!
FRANCHISE Seminars
Come & Attend on these dates:
- Site Evaluation for Franchises — March 23
- How to Franchise Your Business — March 30
- Seminar for Franchisors: Take Your Franchise to the Next Level — April 6

Provincial Franchise Seminars: SM Lucena (March 23) • Cagayan de Oro (March 24)

Organized by:
francorp®
The Leader in Franchise Development. Worldwide.
(INTERNATIONAL FRANCHISE CORPORATION)

FOR MORE INQUIRIES:
☎ 638-3142/49/50
910-6544/45
0917-835-5530
0920-961-0810
✉ info@francorp.com.ph

Earn 7.0%TAX-FREE interest!
Open a 5-year
PSBank Prime Time Deposit now!
- Affordable at PhP50,000.
- Guaranteed fixed rate for 5 years.
- Monthly payout of interest earnings.

Quoted rate is on per annum basis and subject to change without prior notice.

Get it now at any PSBank branch.
PSBank Prime TIME DEPOSIT
Text PSBANK PRIME <your name> <your landline no.> <your email address> then send to 2327 for Globe or 0917-8902327 for non-Globe users.
Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Maximum deposit insurance for each depositor P250,000.

AIM ASIAN CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP
Master in Entrepreneurship
A Learn-and-Apply Course for Entrepreneurs who want their own enterprises to become:
More Profitable by adopting the latest management tools and techniques
More Productive by vigorously pursuing Quality, Quantity and Cost Objectives
More Professional by installing the best management practices
The Master in Entrepreneurship follows these innovative learning methodologies:

Learning by Being a better Person and entrepreneur through the process of Self Mastery

"I thought I knew who I was, what I wanted and how to get it. I was actually supposed to take the MBM program but I realized that the ME suited me better. Little did I know that I would discover myself, develop my passion for business and for building an enterprise. The Life Mapping exercise in the ME, where we shared our lowest and highest points, made me realize a lot about myself. I reflected on my goals. Was it my own enterprise? I concluded it was not... My goal is to touch people's lives... and building an enterprise is the best way of doing it."
Alexander Yu, ME 4
SmartGas
(Bahama Realty and Development Corp.)

Learning by Thinking critically and creatively to discover new Paradigms through the process of Situation Mastery

"AIM provided me with the analytical and critical thinking skills to identify opportunities for Almont Inland Resort in the newly formed region of Caraga (Region XIII). With Butuan as regional center for governmental affairs and a growing business hub for northern Mindanao, I was able to lead my management team to properly evaluate and creatively capitalize on our changing market. We were then able to convince the company's board to shift our business paradigm from a purely leisure venue to a convention-oriented resort. With the construction of a 2,000-seat Convention Center, the resort can now handle increased government events, meetings, and seminars. The shift was timely. It has been instrumental to our success."
Julie Alegrado, ME1
Almont Inland Resort

Learning by Doing by immediately applying Practical management lessons through the process of Enterprise Mastery

"Prior to entering ME, my business was run like a mom and pop sari sari store – no medium and long range planning, very, very few formalized processes, no goal setting, no measurements and basically just flowing on a day to day basis. The introduction of the concept of V-M-O-KRA-PI has totally overhauled the way my company is being operated. The company now has a clear over-riding vision, which is being shared and implemented with the employees as well as our customers. Doing the S-P-A-T-Res is my personal favorite. It has provided me with a real checklist on strategy implementation down to the nitty gritty of things, as well as who will do what and at what cost. An immediate result of laying out these strategies on paper is the realization that I cannot do it alone and the cost of missed opportunities far outweighs the cost of setting up a team to work on these projects. The result of S-P-A-T-Res is the hot hot hot RSCI Business Development Team."
Russ O. Alfonso, ME 4
RS Concepts, Inc.

Now accepting applicants for ME Batch 12.
Classes start on July 17, 2006
To know more about the Master in Entrepreneurship (ME) Program, please call Reggie Santos or Kay Velazco at 892 4011 ext. 389 / 432 or email msantos@aim.edu
EQUIS ACCREDITED

MUSTARD Seed SYSTEMS CORPORATION
Secure your home and office with a SIMPLE Door Access Solutions
Highlights:
- Manage up to 2000 ID cards.
- Entrance option by card or pin, card &pin.
- Master card, master pin code lock up.
- One Prox/keypad/Weigand exit reader extendable.
- Contactless 125kHz reader technology.
- Inclusive of single door electromagnetic lock.

Order now for only Php 22,500.00
*Installation & materials are included.

SUFFERING FROM PAYROLL CALCULATIONS?
Terminate the traditional bundy clock?

Proximity Cards Time Recorder
- Contactless card as employees' ID.
- Compute Payroll In A Flash.
- Save Cost on Printing Time Cards.
- No More Manual Calculations.
- IN/OUT Data Integrates With Mustard Seed Payroll Pro For Time & Attendance, And Payroll Computation.
- Easy to use, Plug & Play USB Port.
- FREE 20 pcs. Proximity thick card.
- Desktop or wall-mounted on front gate.
- PC based or stand alone.

SYCAPS Proximity time & Attendance
For only Php 15,000.00

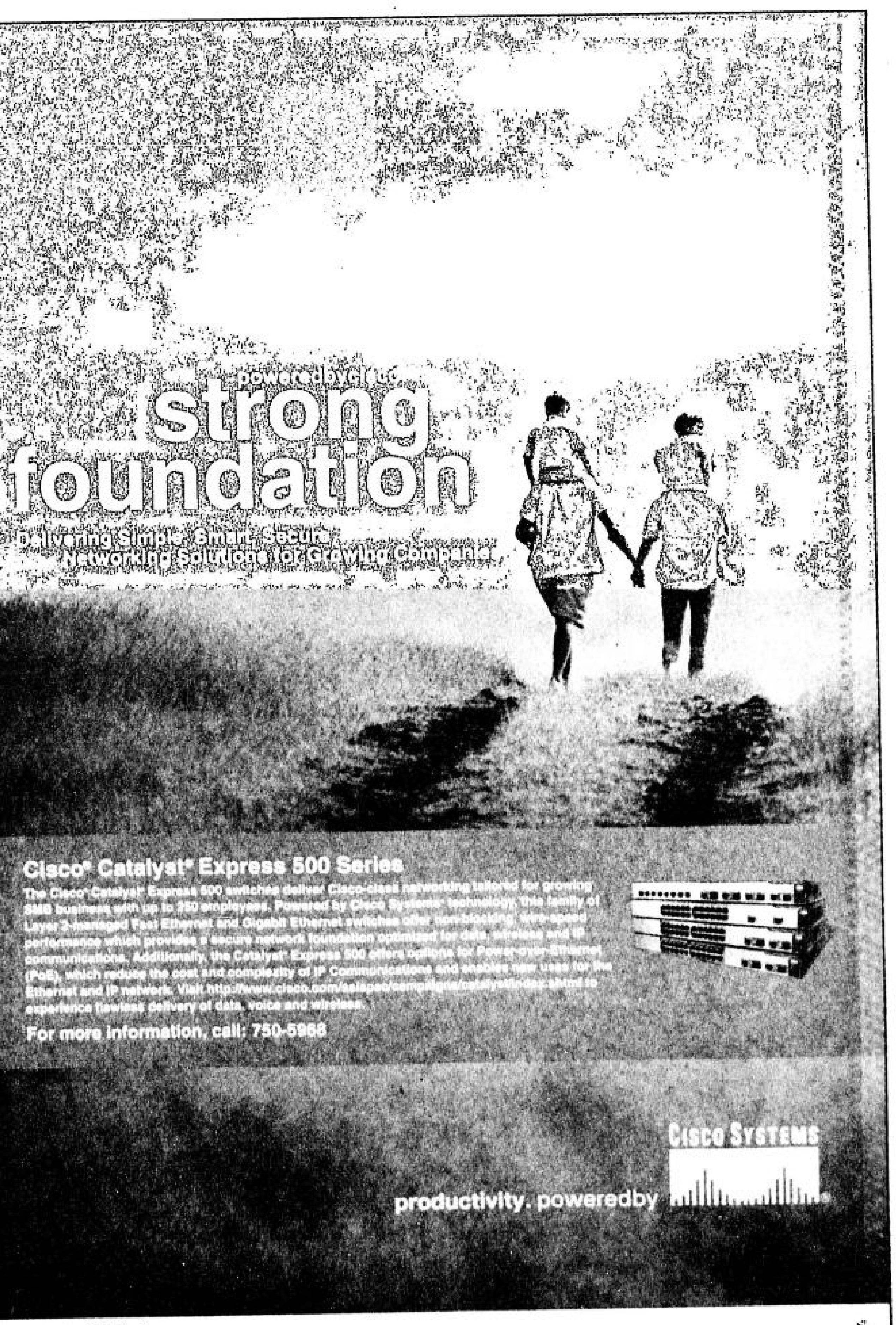
Mustard Seed FINGER PRINT SCANNER PC-Based Biometrics Time Recorder
For Only Php 15,000.00
Stop Fraud!
Terminate The Traditional Punch Clock!
- Compute Payroll In A Flash.
- Save Cost on Printing Time Cards.
- No More Manual Calculations.
- IN/OUT Data Integrates With Mustard Seed Payroll Pro For Time & Attendance, And Payroll Computation.
- Easy to use, Plug & Play USB Port.

CALL NOW!

FREE!!! Mustard Seed Payroll Pro Software for 30 Employees
For more employees you can avail of higher versions of Mustard Seed Payroll Pro Software
1004 B Summit One Office Tower,
530 Shaw Boulevard Mandaluyong City
Tel: 533-1562 | 533-3612 | 533-4085 | 533-6040 | 534-1529
sales@mseedsystems.com
www.mseedsystems.com

SHARP FAX MACHINE AM - 400
Digital Multifunction Fax
FAX (3 seconds per page, plain paper)
COPY (12 copies per minute, 600 x 600 dpi)
PRINT (12 pages per minute)
COLOUR SCAN (600 x 600 dpi)

AM-400 Php. 19,888.00
AM-400 is a multifunction solution that blends seamlessly with your office space and provides document productivity you need. In a single, space-saving package it delivers 4 in 1 functionality FAX, COPY, PRINT and COLOUR SCAN.
Also, with the SHARPDESK software for File Management, it enables you to effortlessly organize, edit and combine over 200 different file types on your desktop.
Scanned files can be printed, emailed or archived, depending on your specific requirements.
**(SHARPDESK was awarded the BERTL's BEST 2005 DESKTOP UTILITY AWARD)
Distributed by:
ASTECH PENGSON DISTRIBUTORS INC
MANILA BRANCH Tel. No.: 634-83 51 to 59
CEBU BRANCH Tel. No.: (032) 344-1185
DAVAO BRANCH Tel. No.: (082) 221-0585


poweredbycisco
strong foundation
Delivering Simple, Smart, Secure Networking Solutions for Growing Companies
productivity. poweredby
CISCO SYSTEMS

Cisco® Catalyst® Express 500 Series
The Cisco® Catalyst® Express 500 switches deliver Cisco-class networking tailored for growing SMB business with up to 250 employees. Powered by Cisco Systems® technology, this family of Layer 2-managed Fast Ethernet and Gigabit Ethernet switches offer non-blocking, wire-speed performance which provides a secure network foundation optimized for data, wireless and IP communications. Additionally, the Catalyst® Express 500 offers options for Power-over-Ethernet (PoE), which reduce the cost and complexity of IP Communications and enables new uses for the Ethernet and IP network. Visit http://www.cisco.com/asiapac/campaigns/catalyst/index.shtml to experience flawless delivery of data, voice and wireless.
For more information, call: 750-5968

Authorized distributors:

LAMCO Lamco International
Suite 1604 18/F East Tower Philippine Stock Exchange Centre Bldg.
Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, Philippines 1605
Tel No (632) 634 7909
Contact persons. Dadolle - loc. 2525, Jonathan - loc. 2508,
Irene - loc. 2517, Pinky - loc. 2518
email cisco@lamco.com.ph, pinkylim@lamco.com.ph
Website. http://www.lamco.com.ph

INGRAM MICRO. Ingram Micro Asia Ltd.
Philippine Rep Office Unit 1708 Jollibee Plaza
Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, Philippines
Tel No (632) 633 8902 • Fax No. (632) 635 6485
Contact persons Sharon Lu and Poe Wee Castillo
Website. www.ingrammicro.com.sg

ING expects peso to further appreciate to 45:$1

By Doris C. Dumlao

DUTCH FINANCIAL GIANT ING Bank sees the peso surging to as high as 45:$1 in the next two years.

This was the most bullish outlook on the peso published so far, even surpassing Goldman Sachs' prediction that the local currency would rise to 48:$1 over the next 12 months.

In a commentary dated March 17, ING economist Tim Condon said the country's strong balance of payment position in the first two months of the year indicated the extent of foreign exchange inflow that had helped lift the peso against the greenback.

The Philippines posted a BOP surplus of $2.03 billion in the first two months of the year, nearly three times the $685 million recorded in the same period last year.

"The January-February surplus was $1.3 billion wider year-on-year, which highlights the pressure on the central bank as it attempts to dissipate some of the upward pressure," Condon said.

The BOP measures the foreign exchange transactions between the domestic economy and the rest of the world.

The peso has been appreciating since the start of the year.

It hit levels not seen since close to four years ago, and peaked at 50.88:$1 despite continuing political uncertainties.

As of last Friday, the peso closed at 51.04 against the US dollar.

Not everybody is cheering the strengthening peso, however, as some exporters and economics had said that there were consequences to a strong peso.

TransCo
National Transmission Corporation

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Date : March 13, 2006
Loan No. : CALYON
Contract No.: Sp05.MBTBP.Mt-0060

1. The ***National Power Corporation (NPC)*** has received a loan from the ***Buyer's Credit Facility arranged by CALYON through a Master Credit Arrangement*** for ***Maramag-Bunawan Project*** and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contract ***Survey, Design, Supply of Materials/Equipment and Erection/Installation and Commissioning of Maramag-Bunawan 230kV Transmission Backbone Project.***

   Bidder shall be from eligible source country of Calyon Buyer's Credit Facility only (United States, Austria, Belgium, England, Denmark, South Korea, Netherlands, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland).
2. The *National Transmission Corporation (TRANSCO)* administering the implementation of the said project, now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the:

   Survey, Design, Supply of Materials/Equipment and Erection/Installation and Commissioning of Maramag–Bunawan 230kV Transmission Backbone Project.
3. Bidders may obtain further information from and inspect and acquire the bidding documents of the ***Office of the Manager, Bids and Contracts Management Department,*** *Ground Floor, Power Center, National Transmission Corporation, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City, Metro Manila, Telephone No.: 981-2212, 981-22-13, 981-4652; Telefax No.: 921-23-08*
4. A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by interested eligible bidders starting March 23, 2006 upon submission of a written application to the above office, and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of ***Forty Thousand Pesos (PHP 40,000.00).***
5. A two-envelope bidding procedure will be adopted. Bidders are to submit simultaneously two (2)-sealed envelopes, one (1) containing the technical proposal and one (1) containing the price proposal. Initially only the technical proposals will be opened. Technical proposals which are submitted by non-qualified bidders or which are not substantially responsive will be rejected. The substantially responsive technical proposals that have been submitted by qualified bidders are discussed with the bidders and the bidders are requested for full compliance. The bidders may or may not submit a supplementary price proposal, which contain the changes in price resulting from the discussed changes in the technical proposals. The original price proposal and the supplementary price proposal are opened simultaneously in public.
6. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of:

   Two Hundred Eighteen Thousand One Hundred Forty Seven US Dollars (US$218,147.00)

   The bid security must be included in the technical proposal.

   Pre-bid Conference shall be conducted on April 27, 2006.

   The deadline for the submission of bids will be on June 7, 2006 at 1:30 P.M. at the aforementioned address. Late submission will be rejected.
7. The technical proposals together with the bid security will be opened immediately thereafter in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
8. The price proposals will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the time and date and at the address to be advised by the Employer after approval of the evaluation of the technical proposals.
9. The total contract duration for the project is **480 calendar days.**
10. TRANSCO reserves the right to reject any or all Bids without offering any reasons, waive any required formality therein and to make an award to the bidder whose proposal is most advantageous to the government.
11. All communications shall be addressed to the Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee at aforementioned address.

(Sgd.) GUILLERMO R. REDOBLADO
Chairman
Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI - March 13, 20 & 27, 2006)

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF CAPIZ
City of Roxas, Province of Capiz
(036) 6210-036 Local 254
Fax No.: (036) 6210-036 Local 158
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Provincial Government of Capiz thru its BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE invites interested suppliers to apply for eligibility and to bid for the project:

Name of Contract : Materials use for the concreting of Capiz-Iloilo Road, Brgy. Sta. Cruz, Ivisan Road Section
Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) : P4,218,060
Source of Fund : Trust Fund

1.	Portland Cement (Type-Ip)	2,1904	bags
2.	Coco Lumber 2'3"x10"	8	pcs
3.	Asstd. C.W. Nails	20 ½	kls
4.	12mm x 6.0 RSB	100	pcs
5.	16mm x 6.0 RSB	450	pcs
6.	Blown Asphalt	2	drums
7.	Flat Bar 3"/16 x 2 x 6m	2	drums
8.	Laminated Sack	50	l.n.m
9.	#16 Tie Wire	50	kgs
10.	1'x2'x10" S4 a lumber	100	pcs
11.	White Reflectorized Paint	5	pails
12.	Yellow Reflectorized Paint	1	pail

BAC Activities	Schedule
1. Submission of Letters of Intent (LOI) including Application of Eligibility	April 3-7, 2006
2. Issuance of Bid documents	April 10-20, 2006
3. Pre-Bid Conference	April 17, 2006
4. Opening of Bids	April 21, 2006

1. In order to qualify for publication in the public bidding, bidders should conform to all eligibility requirements as prescribed by the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the Republic Act 9184.
2. The BAC will issue to prospective bidders Eligibility forms at Provincial General Services Office, Provincial Capitol, Roxas City upon their submission of a LOI, and upon their payment of prescribed non-refundable fee of PESOS: Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000.00).
3. Bidders shall submit the Eligibility Requirements to the BAC at the same address.
4. Bidders shall drop their duly accomplished technical and financial proposals in two separate envelopes in the bid boxes before the deadline of submission of bids, if they have not earlier pre-qualified.
5. All Bids must be accomplished by a bid security in a form of cash and must be delivered to the PGSO on or before the bid closing date.
6. BAC Committee assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of their bids.
7. BAC Committee reserves the right to reject any and all bid proposals, or declare the bidding a failure or not to award the contract, and makes no assurance that a contract shall be entered into as a result of this invitation.

(Sgd.) G. ANTONIO ARBIS
Chairman

(PDI - March 13, 2006)

Vehicle makers urged to support ethanol use

By Abigail L. Ho

PUSHING FOR THE USE OF ethanol-blended gasoline, the Philippine Fuel Ethanol Alliance continues to hold dialogs with the Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines Inc. (Campi) to get their endorsement for the product.

The Ethanol Alliance said it appreciated Campi's openness in continuing to hold discussions on the matter of using ethanol-blended gasoline.

The group also allayed Campi's apprehensions that vehicle manufacturers would not have enough time to modify their engines, if necessary, to accommodate a 5 percent ethanol content in gasoline, which would eventually be increased to 10 percent.

The Ethanol Alliance said the automotive industry would not likely be caught off guard by the passage of a bill that would mandate the sale and use of ethanol-blended gasoline as implementation would be phased.

Under the pending biofuels bill, the mandatory sale and use of ethanol-blended gasoline will start two years after the effectivity of the law.

"This should give all stakeholders sufficient time to prepare," the Ethanol Alliance said.

The group said that while the worries of vehicle manufacturers were "understandable," these should not serve as a hurdle to the country's goal of becoming energy self-sufficient through the use of alternative transport fuels.

ICTSI profit hits ₱1.3B

By Daxim L. Lucas

PORT OPERATOR INTERNATIONAL Container Terminal Services, Inc. (ICTSI) earned P1.3 billion in 2005 compared to P1.1 billion the previous year as strong performance from its foreign operations continued to boost revenues.

ICTSI chair and CEO Enrique K. Razon Jr. described 2005 as a "record year" despite the relatively minor income restatements brought about by a shift in accounting standards.

Continued strong performance at the company's international operations provided most of the increase in full year earnings relative to the prior year.

Foreign operations contributed 34 percent of 2005's consolidated net income, as compared with 27 percent in 2004 and a net loss in 2003.

Razon, however, was disappointed with his company's performance at home.

ICTSI handled consolidated 1.838 million twenty foot equivalent units (TEUs) of cargo in 2005, 2.5 percent more than the 1.793 million handled in 2004.

PC MAGAZINE PHILIPPINES AND INTEL MICROELECTRONICS PHILIPPINES INC.
PRESENT

REGISTER NOW!
LIMITED SLOTS AVAILABLE

PC MAGAZINE PHILIPPINES & intel
HOW-TO ROADSHOW
Microsoft

A NATIONWIDE series of SEMINARS on making INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES work for SMALL AND MEDIUM BUSINESSES

- How computer technologies can help your business
- Networking and communications strategies
- Financing your IT investments
- Wireless technologies
- Security

MAKATI CITY
Dusit Hotel Nikko, Ayala Center
8:30am to 5:00pm

March 28 For RETAIL / WHOLESALE and SALES-ORIENTED BUSINESSES
March 30 For MANUFACTURING-ORIENTED BUSINESSES
March 31 For PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

For reservations, please fax this to 759-2022 to 24 or email details to editors@pcmag.ph

Name: ____________
Age: ____________
Company: ____________
Address: ____________
____
Position: ____________
Contact No.: ____________
Email Address: ____________
Nature of Business: ____________

For more information, please call 813-4396 / 840-0196 / 813-6848 Local 804 to 805.

PROVINCIAL TOUR
For all owners of small and medium businesses in retail/wholesale, manufacturing, or professional services.

DAVAO CITY
The Marco Polo Davao
April 20, 2006 • 8:30am to 5:00pm

CEBU CITY
Marriott Hotel
May 11, 2006 • 8:30am to 5:00pm

ANGELES, PAMPANGA
Holiday Inn Clark
June 8, 2006 • 8:30am to 5:00pm

Seminar fee is just PhP500.00. Inclusive of: Buffet lunch, morning & afternoon snacks, and a 6-month subscription to PC Magazine.

Selected participants shall be contacted prior to the event and shall be given instructions on how to forward payments. Once payment is received, the selected participants shall be given CONFIRMATION CODES. Only interested parties with confirmation codes shall be accepted into the seminars.

Due to limited slots,,PC Magazine reserves the right to pre-select the participants for the above seminars.

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of March 17, 2006)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
FINANCIAL					
BANKS					
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.5	3,000
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	35	35	34.5	35	206,600
Bank of the Phil. Islands	62	62	61.5	62	834,300
China Banking Corp.	680	680	680	680	820
Citystate Savings Bank	19	19	19	19	500
Export and Ind. Bank Inc.	0.4	0.4	0.38	0.39	3,270,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	75	78.5	74.5	74.5	415,400
International Exch. Bank	26	27	26	27	57,900
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	37	37.5	37	37.5	565,300
Philippine National Bank	32	32	32	32	3,700
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	1,100
Security Bank Corp.	37.5	37.5	37.5	37.5	45,500
Union Bank of the Phil.	34.5	34.5	34.5	34.5	5,400
OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS					
First Metro Invest. Corp.	24	24.5	24	24.5	500
Manulife Financial Corp.	3240	3240	3240	3240	120
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.98	20,000
Sun Life Financial Inc.	2180	2180	2180	2180	450
Ivantage Corp.	0.81	0.82	0.81	0.82	3,450,000
INDUSTRIAL					
ELECTRICITY, ENERGY, POWER & WATER					
First Gen Corp.	41.5	42	41.5	42	22,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	41.5	42.5	41	42.5	453,500
Manila Electric Co. A	13	13	12.75	13	187,000
Manila Electric Co. B	20	20	19.75	20	392,000
Manila Water Co. Inc.	6.4	6.5	6.4	6.5	337,000
Petron Corp.	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.5	3,094,000
East Asia Power Res. Corp.	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	430,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	0.9	0.9	0.89	0.89	390,000
FOOD, BEVERAGE & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	3.6	3.65	3.6	3.65	5,000
Ginebra San Miguel Inc.	18.5	19	18.5	18.75	132,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	38.5	38.5	38	38	237,700
RFM Corp.	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	10,000
Roxas Holdings Inc.	1.76	1.76	1.74	1.76	518,000
San Miguel Corp. A	60.5	61	60	60.5	26,500
San Miguel Corp. B	77.5	78	76.5	78	229,200
Universal Robina Corp.	17.25	17.5	17.25	17.5	20,000
Vitarich Corp.	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.29	200,000
CONSTRUCTION, INFRASTRUCTURE & ALLIED SERVICES					
Southeast Asian Cement	0.29	0.3	0.28	0.29	2,480,000
Engineering Equip. Inc.	1.32	1.32	1.26	1.3	2,165,000
Fortune Cement Corp.	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	20,000
Holcim Philippines Inc.	4.35	4.4	4.35	4.4	240,000
Republic Cement Corp.	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	200,000
CHEMICALS					
Euro-Med Lab. Phil. Inc.	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	22,000
DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS					
Global Equities Inc.	0.065	0.065	0.065	0.065	400,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.075	0.075	0.0725	0.0725	1,400,000
Steniel Manufacturing	0.32	0.35	0.32	0.35	90,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.007	40,000,000
Ayala Corp.	342.5	345	342.5	345	70,040
Alsons Cons. Res. Inc.	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	140,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	4.95	5	4.95	5	285,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.024	0.024	0.024	0.024	5,400,000
A. Soriano Corp.	2.46	2.46	2.46	2.46	1,000
APC Group Inc.	0.21	0.235	0.21	0.23	2,690,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	13,000,000
Anglo Phil Holdings Corp.	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.87	250,000
Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc.	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	58,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.93	0.97	0.93	0.97	10,640,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95	200,000
Fil-Estate Corp.	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	110,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	2.44	2.55	2.44	2.48	1,983,000
JG Summit Holdings Inc.	5	5.1	5	5.1	1,307,000
Medco Holdings	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	80,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.245	0.25	0.245	0.25	7,290,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.51	0.53	0.51	0.53	50,000
Sinophil Corp.	0.135	0.14	0.135	0.14	26,690,000
SM Investments Corp.	224	225	224	225	85,650
South China Resources Inc.	0.73	0.74	0.73	0.74	130,000
Seafront Resources Corp.	0.41	0.48	0.41	0.48	490,000
Wellex Industries Inc.	0.13	0.14	0.125	0.14	3,300,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	10.5	10.75	10.5	10.5	4,617,000
Belle Corp.	0.99	1.06	0.99	1.04	2,570,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	1,650,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	1.76	1.76	1.76	1.76	1,215,000
C&P Homes Inc.	1.56	1.56	1.56	1.56	360,000
Cebu Prop. Vent. A	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	10,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	500,000
EIB Realty Developers Inc.	0.18	0.21	0.18	0.21	530,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.51	0.51	0.5	0.5	7,820,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.71	0.75	0.7	0.74	1,530,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.24	1.24	1.22	1.24	4,480,000
Highlands Prime Inc.	3	3	3	3	50,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.205	0.205	0.205	0.205	480,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.45	0.46	0.45	0.46	290,000
Marsteel Cons. Inc. B	0.016	0.016	0.016	0.016	1,000,000
Megaworld Corp.	1.46	1.46	1.44	1.46	5,037,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.33	0.33	0.32	0.32	11,560,000
MRC Allied Ind. Inc.	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	50,000
Robinsons Land Corp.	6.6	6.7	6.6	6.6	335,000
Phil Realty and Holdings	0.25	0.27	0.245	0.27	7,300,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	8	8.1	8	8.1	3,345,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.135	0.14	0.135	0.135	5,680,000
MEDIA					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5	17,500
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	1.32	1.32	1.3	1.32	101,000
TELECOMMUNICATIONS					
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.88	0.89	0.88	0.89	500,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	865	885	865	875	32,780
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	3.1	3.15	3.05	3.05	3,571,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	1830	1830	1820	1825	75,690
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY					
Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.205	0.205	0.2	0.2	5,110,000
Ionics Inc.	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24	74,000
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.045	600,000
ISM Communications Corp.	0.0525	0.055	0.0525	0.055	36,500,000
Music Semiconductors Corp.	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	2,000
Philweb Corp.	0.023	0.023	0.022	0.023	27,300,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	12.5	12.5	12	12	458,000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.97	0.97	0.97	0.97	60,000
Lorenzo Shipping Corp.	1.38	1.38	1.38	1.38	10,000
HOTEL & LEISURE					
Acesite Phils Hotel Corp.	3.55	3.55	3.55	3.55	705,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	1.84	1.88	1.82	1.88	5,692,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.41	0.41	0.4	0.4	900,000
EDUCATION					
Far Eastern University	605	605	600	600	2,470
Ipeople Inc.	3.15	3.2	3.15	3.2	55,000
DIVERSIFIED SERVICES					
Macroasia Corp.	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.6	255,000
Paxys Inc.	8.4	8.5	8.2	8.4	524,000
Philcomsat Holdings Corp.	0.62	0.62	0.62	0.62	20,000
MINING					
Apex Mining Co. Inc. A	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04	1,000
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	5,000,000
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't	6.8	6.9	6.7	6.8	875,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.2	0.215	0.2	0.215	760,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.245	0.25	0.245	0.25	5,690,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.017	245,000,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.025	0.025	0.024	0.025	41,400,000
Omico Corp.	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	30,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	2	2.04	2	2.04	4,832,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	2.18	2.22	2.14	2.22	6,127,000
Semirara Mining Corp.	26.5	26.5	26.5	26.5	2,300
United Paragon Mining Co.	0.34	0.35	0.3	0.31	4,820,000
Vulcan Ind'l	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	290,000
OIL					
Basic Consolidated Inc.	0.24	0.245	0.24	0.245	1,410,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.007	3,000,000
The Philodrill Corp. A	0.45	0.47	0.45	0.47	200,000
The Philodrill Corp. B	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	100,000
Petroenergy Res. Corp.	4	4	3.85	3.9	52,000
PREFERRED					
PLDT (10% Pref) Series V	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	100
PLDT 10% Pref Series Aa	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,600
PLDT 10% Pref Series Dd	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,000
WARRANTS, PHIL. DEPOSIT RECEIPTS, ETC.					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	11.5	11.75	11.25	11.75	402,900

CURRENCIES

March 19, 2006 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.820681	1.000000	51.0920
Japan	Yen	0.007027	0.008562	0.4374
United Kingdom	Pound	1.442593	1.757800	89.8095
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.105795	0.128911	6.5863
Switzerland	Franc	0.636680	0.775795	39.6369
Canada	Dollar	0.712026	0.867604	44.3276
Singapore	Dollar	0.507533	0.618429	31.5968
Australia	Dollar	0.602954	0.734700	37.5373
Bahrain	Dinar*	2.177682	2.653505	135.5729
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.218825	0.266638	13.6231
Brunei	Dollar	0.505969	0.616523	31.4994
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000089	0.000109	0.0056
Thailand	Baht	0.021032	0.025628	1.3094
UAE	Dirham	0.223461	0.272287	13.9117
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.218500	62.2556
Argentina	Peso	0.267323	0.325733	16.6424
Brazil	Real	0.389872	0.475059	24.2717
Denmark	Kroner	0.134043	0.163332	8.3450
India	Rupee	0.018525	0.022573	1.1533
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.221566	0.269978	13.7937
Mexico	New Peso	0.077124	0.093976	4.8014
New Zealand	Dollar	0.522295	0.636416	32.5158
Norway	Kroner	0.124923	0.152219	7.7772
Pakistan	Rupee	0.013659	0.016644	0.8504
South Africa	Rand	0.133012	0.162075	8.2807
Korea	Won	0.000842	0.001026	0.0524
Sweden	Kroner	0.107017	0.130400	6.6624
Syria	Pound	0.015810	0.019264	0.9842
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.025302	0.030831	1.5752
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000382	0.000466	0.0238

BULK LPG PRICE DROP!!!

₱37.50 per kilogram*

GUARANTEED LOW OR WE BEAT COMPETITOR'S PRICE

CALL US NOW
895 1282 / (0920) 912 4941 / (046) 419 2770 / (0918) 907 9059

* Cash basis, minimum 8,000kgs per delivery. Offer good until March 25 or while LOW PRICED LPG supply last.

9775 Kamagong St., San Antonio Village Makati City
www.masaganagas.com

Masagana Gas
your LPG partner

sharexchange

RUSH
CALL US NOW FOR THE BEST DEALS

SELLERS		BUYERS	
ALABANG "B"	1.3M	BAGUIO CC	Call Now
CC AT TAGAYTAY	340K	MLA GOLF CORP	11.5M
SPA & LODGE	400K	MANILA POLO	Call Now

TERE TABUENA, LYRA, FRANCO DEL ROSARIO
829-9514 | 829-9515 | 828-5777 | 0918-9043300
Email sharexchange@pldtdsl.net

FVR CLUB SHARES SPECIALIST, INC.
A SUBSIDIARY OF FRANCISCO V DEL ROSARIO HOLDINGS, INC.
Your Trusted Specialist Broker since 1982
SEC LICENSE #BD-00129
as of March 16, 2006

SELLING		BUYING	
BAGUIO COUNTRY CLUB	520K	ALABANG A	1.075M
CANLUBANG GOLF CLUB	500K	ALABANG B	1.150M
FOREST HILLS A	100K	ALTA VISTA B	330K
FOREST HILLS B	180K	COUNTRY CLUB @ TGYTY	300K
HACIENDA LUISITA A	PLS CALL	CLUB FILIPINO	80K
MANILA GOLF CORP	12.0M	EASTRIDGE A	90K
MANILA POLO CLUB	2.5M	EASTRIDGE B	110K
MANILA SOUTHWOODS A	330K	EAGLE RIDGE B	330K
MANILA SOUTHWOODS B	690K	MANILA GOLF IND	PLS. CALL
MANILA YACHT CLUB	350K	MANILA GOLF CORP	11.0M
PUNTA FUEGO	450K	MANILA POLO CLUB	2.3M
ROCKWELL CLUB	PLS. CALL	MANILA SOUTHWOODS B	650K
ROYALE TAGAYTAY	70K	MIMOSA GOLF IND	150K
SHERWOOD HILLS "A"	50K/70K	ORCHARD B	300K
STA ELENA A	1.2M	RIVIERA GOLF B	130K
TAGAYTAY HIGLANDS	680K	STA. ELENA B	1.450M
TAGAYTAY MIDLANDS	650K	SUBIC GOLF CLUB	120K
TOWER CLUB C	300K	THE PALMS	PLS. CALL
VALLEY GOLF CLUB	250K	VALLEY GOLF	180K
VALLE VERDE	90K	WACK WACK	8.0M(ALL IN)

PLAYING RIGHTS ALSO AVAILABLE

Please contact AMIE, VIRGIE OR REY
Tel.#s 8186936/ 8186991/ 8186948; Fax # 818-5453
email address: fvrhi@info.com.ph
GF Tuscan Bldg. 114 V.A.Rufino St. Legaspi Village, Makati City

G & W club-shares
FREE PLAYING RIGHTS AVAILABLE
As of March 20, 2006
SHARES AVAILABLE

CLUB	SELLER	BUYER
Alabang Country Club A/B*	1,100,000/1,250,000*	Pls Call
Alta Vista B/Corp.*	-	Pls. Call/300,000*
Baguio Country Club	-	500,000
Camp John Hay	-	150,000
Canlubang Golf	500,000	Pls. Call
Canyon Woods	120,000	-
Capitol Hills	60,000	-
Cebu Country Club	1,500,000	1,350,000
Celebrity Sports	120,000	100,000
City Sports Club Cebu	-	380,000
Club Filipino	110,000	
Eagleridge A/B*/C**	330,000*	150,000/Pls. Call*/350,000**
Eastridge A/B*	Pls. Call	-
Evercrest	65,000	-
Fairways & Bluewater	Pls. Call	Pls. Call
Forest Hills A/B*/C**	120,000/200,000*	150,000*
Luisita Golf	Pls. Call	300,000
Manila Golf Corporate	Pls Call	11,500,000
Manila Golf Individual	Pls. Call	11,000,000
Manila Polo	Pls Call	Pls Call
Manila Southwoods A/B*	350,000/Pls. Call*	300,000/700,000*
Makati Sports Club	150,000	170,000
Manila Yacht Club Ind.	350,000	250,000
Metropolitan Club A/B*	120,000/150,000*	90,000
Mimosa Ind./C2*/C3**	Pls. Call	150,000/300,000*/400,000**
Mt. Malarayat A	250,000	-
Orchard A/B*/C**	180,000/Pls. Call*/400,000**	150,000
Punta Fuego	400,000	-
Quezon City Sports Club	160,000	140,000
Riviera Golf A/B*/C**	90,000/150,000*/250,000**	130,000
Rockwell Leisure Club	Pls. Call	180,000
Royale Tagaytay CC	80,000	-
Sherwood A/B*/C**	70,000/150,000**	80,000*
Sta. Elena Golf A/B*	Pls. Call	1,100,000/1,550,000*
The Palms Country Club	550,000	380,000
Tagaytay Country Club	330,000	310,000
Tagaytay Highlands	650,000	-
Tagaytay Midlands	Pls Call	600,000
The Country Club	2,000,000	-
Tower Club	140,000	-
Valley Golf	210,000	-
Valle Verde Ind.	100,000	-
Wack Wack Golf	6,350,000	6,175,000

Tel. 8604151
(0917)3287789
e-mail: info@gwclubshares.com
website: www.gwclubshares.com

GG & A Club Shares
SEC License Broker #007575 * As of March 20, 2006

CLUB	SELLER	BUYER
Alabang Country Club "A" (Filipino)	1,175,000	1,050,000
Alabang Country Club "B" (Foreigner)	1,200,000	1,100,000
Anvaya Cove Beach & Nature Club	Please Call	
Baguio Country Club	Please Call	500,000
Calatagan Golf Club "A"	40,000	-
Calatagan Golf Club "B"	70,000	-
Camp John Hay	220,000	170,000
Canlubang	500,000	400,000
Capitol Hills	60,000	-
Cebu Country Club	1,500,000	1,350,000
Celebrity Sports Club	120,000	-
Club Filipino	100,000	-
Eagleridge "A"/"B"/"C"	Please Call	-
Forest Hills "A"	100,000	-
Forest Hills "B"	200,000	150,000
Forest Hills "C"	200,000	-
Makati Sports Club "A"	180,000	160,000
Makati Sports Club "B"	250,000	-
Manila Golf (Corporate)	-	11,500,000
Manila Golf (Individual)	-	11,000,000
Manila Polo	2,500,000	2,200,000
Manila Southwoods "A"	330,000	-
Manila Southwoods "B"	Please Call	600,000
Manila Yacht Club	350,000	-
Mimosa (Individual)	-	160,000
Mimosa (Corporate)	-	450,000
Mt. Malarayat Gold "A"	250,000	200,000
Mt. Malarayat Gold "C"	350,000	-
Orchard Golf Club "A"	180,000	140,000
Orchard Golf Club "B"	-	325,000
Orchard Golf Club "C"	380,000	-
Quezon City Sports Club	170,000	140,000
Spa & Lodge	400,000	
Sta. Elena "A"	1,200,000	1,100,000
Sta. Elena "B"	-	1,500,000
Subic Bay Golf	200,000	-
Tagaytay Country Club	330,000	300,000
Tagaytay Highlands	700,000	600,000
Tagaytay Midlands	670,000	600,000
Valle Verde (Individual)	100,000	-
Valle Verde (Corporate)	190,000	-
Valley Golf	220,000	200,000
Wack-Wack Golf Club	6,350,000	6,175,000

*PLAYING RIGHTS ALSO AVAILABLE

Tel: 840-1761 local 652 · E-mail: ggashare@mozcom.com
Fax: 894-3021 · Website: www.ggaclubshares.com

Show the right color to your eyes

BenQ PB6240
2700 ANSI Lumens
XGA (1024 x 768 pixels)
6.38 lbs. / 2.9 kg.
Contrast Ratio 2000:1
SRGB

Features
- Password Function
- Notebook Color Matching
- Built In Speaker
- 8 Preset modes

PICTURE BY DLP™
DLP™ technology by Texas Instrument offers crystal clear images with superior quality.

Php 79,888.00
With carrying case

ASTECH PENGSON DISTRIBUTORS INC
Manila Head Office: 634-8351 to 59
Cebu (032) 344-1185 • Davao (082) 221-0565

Awards and Recognition Worldwide:

BenQ
Enjoyment Matters

Lenovo recommends Windows® XP Professional.

THE NEW E SERIES FOR SMALL BUSINESS.
REAL THINKCENTRE. UNREAL PRICE.

INTRODUCING THE NEW THINKCENTRE E SERIES. Look to the new ThinkCentre E Series desktop to give you an unheard-of combination of power, innovations, options, and support. With standard features like an Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor (on select models), the ThinkCentre E Series comes with one-button Rescue and Recovery™ that lets you recover from system crashes even when the computer won't boot up. The ThinkCentre E Series desktops are now products of Lenovo, a new global company uniting Lenovo and the former IBM PC Division under the Lenovo name. ThinkCentre service and support continues to be available from IBM in many countries. Find out more at lenovo.com/ph

ThinkCentre E50
DISTINCTIVE INNOVATIONS
Rescue and Recovery™ - Push-of-a-button data backup and recovery
SYSTEM FEATURES
Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor 3.06GHz (533 MHz FSB)
Windows® XP Professional
256MB DDR2 Memory
80GB SATA HDD, CD-ROM Drive
Realtec 10/100 Ethernet
E74 17" CRT Stealth Black Monitor
SIS Mirage, 1 year parts & labor on-site warranty
Also available with PC DOS OS (921526A) at only PHP37,195
THINK EXPRESS MODEL
PHP43,795† (921527A)

ThinkCentre E50
DISTINCTIVE INNOVATIONS
Rescue and Recovery™ - Push-of-a-button data backup and recovery
SYSTEM FEATURES
Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor 3.0GHz (800 MHz FSB)
Windows® XP Professional
256MB DDR2 Memory
80GB SATA HDD, CD-ROM Drive
Realtec 10/100 Ethernet
E74 17" CRT Stealth Black Monitor
SIS Mirage, 1 year parts & labor on-site warranty
Also available with Intel® Celeron® Processor 2.8GHz, DVD-ROM Drive (9215A6A) at only PHP37,595
THINK EXPRESS MODEL
PHP47,295† (9215D1A)

ThinkCentre A51
DISTINCTIVE INNOVATIONS
Rescue and Recovery™ - Push-of-a-button data backup and recovery
SYSTEM FEATURES
Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor 630 (3.0eGHz, 800 MHz FSB)
Windows® XP Professional
256MB DDR2 Memory
80GB SATA HDD, CD-RW Drive
Integrated 10/100/1000 Ethernet
E74 17" CRT Stealth Black Monitor
Intel® GMA 900, 3 years parts, 1 year labor & 1 year on-site warranty
THINK EXPRESS MODEL
PHP52,495† (8123MAF)

Complement these ThinkCentre desktops with special upgrades:
- Upgrade from 17" CRT to 15" TFT Monitor (9205AB6) PHP8,595†
- Upgrade from 17" CRT to 17" TFT Monitor (9417AC1) PHP10,295†
- ThinkPlus Warranty Upgrade – 3-year parts, 1-year labor & 1-year on-site warranty (41E9816) PHP2,295†

Other Options:
- 256MB PC3200 DDR SDRAM (73P2685) PHP3,795†
- 512MB PC3200 DDR SDRAM (73P2686) PHP7,095†
- 256MB PC2-4200 DDR2 SDRAM (73P4970) PHP3,795†
- 512MB PC2-4200 DDR2 SDRAM (73P4971) PHP7,495†

With the Think Express Program, ThinkCentre desktops are preconfigured with your business and your budget in mind

Contact our authorised resellers today.

lenovo™

Corporate Resellers: Accent Micro Technologies, Inc. 6363563 • American Technologies, Inc. 7230601 • Creative Technologies, Inc. 4004222 • Equicom Computer Services, Inc. 8133801 • Integrated Computer Systems, Inc. 7273801 • Ng Khai Development Corporation (032) 3462926 • Personal Computer Specialists, Inc. 8195106 • Unison Computer Systems, Inc. 3745888
Partners: ABC Computers Co., Inc. 7214960 • Accent Micro Products, Inc. 6347999 • Advance Microsystems Corp. 6354181 • Advance Solutions, Inc. 5263935 • Aries IT Systems 8921000 x 2073 • Axis Computer, Incorporated 8444383 • Axus International, Inc. 6876500 • Ayala Systems Technology Inc. 8132494 • Columbia Technologies, Inc. 5240393 • Eco I.T. Solutions Corporation 7466500 • Electroworld Office Systems 7472054 • Information Products, Corp. 7215250 • JPMED Asian Pacific Incorporated 8438000 • MG Business Systems, Inc. 3727926 • Micro Image International, Corp. 8404050 • Micro Pacific Technologies Co., Ltd. 8404563 x 115 • Microbase, Inc. 8137603 • Microcircuits Corporation 5318768 • Microphase Enterprise Company 8128814 • Northgate Technologies, Inc. 8937454 • MicroGold 8892800 • Productivity Tech Services, Inc. 8992092 • Questronix Corporation 8134422 • Silicon Valley Computer Center 3716868 • Valueline Systems & Solutions Corporation 9257623 • Villman Computer Systems, Inc. 7529030 • Virtuality Information Technology Systems 7277632 • Zenshin Systems Corporation 3669395

© Lenovo 2006. All rights reserved. ThinkPad and ThinkVantage are trademarks of Lenovo. IBM and IBM logo are registered trademarks of IBM and are used under license. Microsoft and Windows are registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation. Celeron, Celeron Inside, Centrino, Core Inside, Intel, Intel Core, Intel Inside, Intel SpeedStep, Intel Viiv, Intel Xeon, Itanium, Itanium Inside, Pentium, Pentium Inside, the Centrino logo, the Intel logo and the Intel Inside logo are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries. †While stocks last

iBlog, iPodcast: Citizen journalism using tech

By Leo Magno

(Third of four parts)

SPECIAL REPORT

WE HAVE DISCUSSED WHY NEW media citizen journalists—bloggers and podcasters in particular—are getting influential, if we are to define influence as being noticed and listened to by government, mainstream media and the public. We have also discussed the pitfalls of referring to this trend as a new form of journalism. We have also heard from mainstream media and from new media publishers who, they said, do not even consider themselves journalists.

Theoretically then, bloggers and podcasters should not be harassed or censored if they are seen merely as flies that refuse to go away. But why do charges of sedition and active censorship still occur? Why are blogs and podcasts being monitored by government? Why is there a seeming insecurity on the part of traditional media? Why should new media grassroots journalism be considered a threat?

Blogs and podcasts are disruptive technologies. They arrive at the party, offer something new, start playing a new song and dance to a new beat, they tear the piñata down and before you know it the tables have been overturned and the party will never be the same again. That party is traditional media—television, radio and print. Any new addition to a set with the potential to disrupt established norms would naturally be seen as a threat. Traditional media is pushed out of its comfort zone of having the final say on matters of news and opinion. Traditional media may even feel that with grassroots journalism they may become disenfranchised.

Old habits, new habits

Perhaps blogs, podcasts and new media in general are seen as threats because of changing information assimilation behaviors of the audience.

"Already today, some blogs have more regular readers than major nationwide newspapers in the United States," said Ronald Meinardus of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation. "Blogs are particularly popular with younger people. Once they grow older they will have different media consumption patterns than today's adults. I am not saying that the newspapers will disappear, but their share of the media pie will shrink."

As New York-based future media analyst and new media consultant Andrew Zolli said: "Why is newspaper readership declining? Why are people not going to movies? It's because people are making their own media, and the low cost of participation is allowing them to become co-equal participants. Do you think they need to ask permission from journalists?"

This, Zolli said, is why initially there will be animosity between new media and old media.

"What is changing for them and for journalists is that the line between being an editor and a writer is blurring," he said. "The bad thing about it is that it's becoming too politicized. A turf war is happening between traditional journalists and the new online journalists."

"Fewer people are buying newspapers and watching TV, I am conscious of that fact. They're going somewhere else," said Joshua Gliddon, Australian reporter and blogger for The Bulletin, a weekly news magazine published in Sydney.

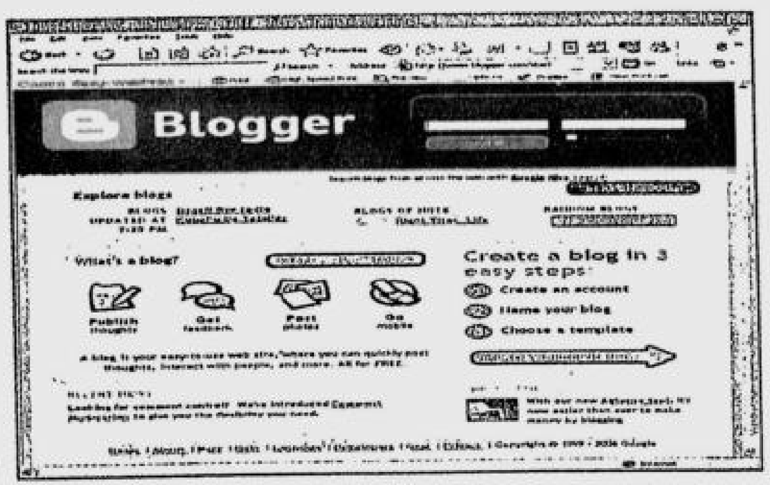
"I think us journalists have to address three things today," he said. "One is that we no longer set the agenda. Bloggers are setting the agenda. We're putting the reportage in the hands of the people. The scary part is that traditional media just don't get it despite the fact that the shift is happening and it's already here.

"Two is that in the world of blogs and podcasts, people want to hear more human voices. They want to hear real voices. There's a lack of trust that's widening between the people and traditional media.

"Three is that us journalists, if we're gonna adapt to this change, we need to be transparent. There is a lack of transparency and we need to admit our mistakes. If we don't, someone else online will point them out through their blogs, and those mistakes will remain forever."

New watchdogs

So here we are seeing a watchdog function for citizen journalists. Whereas the media used to have that sole function, citizens themselves are becoming watchdogs not just of government but of media as well. They are becoming watchdogs of the watchdogs.



FREE blog hosts like Blogger have made it easier for ordinary citizens without journalistic backgrounds to become their own reporters, editors and publishers rolled into one. But is this good or bad?

"Blogs and podcasts not only pull media consumers away from the traditional media, in some cases they are also rather critical of the traditional media," said Meinardus. "Slipping into the role of the watchdog of newspapers, radio programs and television, is just one of the innovations. I find even more important that blogs and podcasts target specific audiences the traditional media do not reach. They fill niches which the traditional media simply cannot deal with. The new term being used for this is 'narrowcasting' as opposed to 'broadcasting.'"

"Blogging is a powerful tool of freedom of expression that has enthused millions of ordinary people," said Julien Pain, head of the Internet Freedom Desk of Reporters Without Borders. "Passive consumers of information have become energetic participants in a new kind of journalism—what United States blog pioneer Dan Gillmor calls 'grassroots journalism—by the people, for the people.' I think that bloggers and citizen journalists have a role to play in this field. They monitor what's being said in mainstream media and very often correct mistakes which are made by traditional journalists."

The programs of various organizations like the Committee to Protect Bloggers, the Reporters Without Borders and the Poynter Institute may stand witness to the growing influence of grassroots journalism and the effort of individual citizens to join the public sphere via new media.

For instance, the Committee to Protect Bloggers has been acting as a clearing house for information on incarcerated members of the blogging community. In cooperation with the Committee to Protect Journalists, it is monitoring global free speech rights violations and is listing down the harassment of bloggers by authoritarian governments, whether or not they are journalists.

The Reporters Without Borders is helping spread the word about expression suppression worldwide. It has set up a dedicated Internet Freedom Desk and is issuing a Handbook for Bloggers and Cyber-dissidents to help the cause of free speech online. It has even institutionalized the "Freedom Blog Awards," which Malaysia's Jeff Ooi won last year.

The Poynter Institute has actively been conducting trainings on how to incorporate new media channels like blogging and podcasting into the mainstream. The idea is to harness views from the grassroots and lift that up to mainstream media for a wider, more established audience base.

Given that these journalists' organizations are now protecting new media expression, we are seeing the two worlds of grassroots expression and traditional media crossing paths. These organizations are giving due recognition to bloggers and podcasters.

"I expect mainstream media to become more personal and less corporate in reaction to the blogging and podcasting trends," said Steve Outing, senior editor at the Poynter Institute. "Also, more professional journalists who blog for traditional media companies are being allowed to publish without pre-publication editing. So blogging and podcasting have loosened things up considerably already."

So perhaps, instead of being seen as a threat, citizen journalists and grassroots journalism should be viewed as partners in elevating ideas to those who hold power. Perhaps this is precisely why people who hold power perceive citizen journalism as a threat. Could we be headed toward a combination of mainstream and grassroots media, or are the two irreconcilably different?

Quo vadis?

Earlier, we heard bloggers and podcasters themselves declare that they are not journalists. However, we have also heard experts say that grassroots journalism enabled by technologies like blogging and podcasting should become or are already becoming part of mainstream media. Will journalists disappear? Where is all this headed?

A 2005 Pew Internet report (http://www.pewinternet.org/PPF/r/144/report_display.asp) shows that while 27 percent of Internet users read blogs, 62 percent didn't know what a blog was. And so blogging is moving into the daily part of online information gathering. Readers do not need to know whether it is a blog or not—people just read them as they would any other source on the Web, without worrying about technical differences.

With this in mind, do blogging and podcasting have a chance of becoming viable sources of information in the future?

"Yes, but that's a qualified yes," said Outing of the Poynter Institute. "Within both blogging and podcasting are a wide range of users—from professional journalists using those new media tools, all the way down to teenagers blogging and podcasting for fun. But in between, there definitely are some non-journalists who are doing high-quality work, and some of it is quite credible. So, for readers and listeners of blogs and podcasts, it takes some analysis to figure out if they're reading or listening to a credible source. With most (not all!) traditional media, you already have some assurance of credibility because of the existing brand name."

The Friedrich Naumann Foundation's Meinardus, although a liberal thinker with his own podcast, prefers to tread with caution.

"Media are instruments of communication for the information and entertainment of the people," he said. "In a democracy, they play a crucial role in controlling government. Their existence, and also their freedom, is essential for liberal societies. Blogs and podcasts are new—almost revolutionary—media. I call them do-it-yourself media. Everybody with just a little technical infrastructure, basically not more than a PC and an Internet connection, can be his or her own publisher. This is a fundamental democratization of the media. It abolishes the so-called gatekeepers. In the traditional media, the gatekeepers, basically the editors and publishers, control what is published and what is not. This is no longer the case today."

Journalistic standards

This does not mean, however, that journalists will be replaced by bloggers and podcasters, as Meinardus explained:

"Editors safeguard professional standards. Many blogs and podcasts lack journalistic professionalism. I assume it will not take long and the market will sort out the blogosphere. Only the good ones with a clear message and an acceptable standard of presentation will survive and compete with traditional media."

Meinardus believes that traditional media will not disappear with the coming of newer forms of media.

"This is not the first time that we've heard of the approaching demise of traditional media," he said. "On more than one occasion, newspapers, radio and television have proven capable of adapting and surviving."

Curt Hopkins, director of the Committee to Protect Bloggers, shared the same thoughts.

"Journalism is work," said Hopkins. "It takes experience to figure out what the story is, how to research it and how to interview, how to write in the most effective manner. Journalism will not be replaced by blogging. It's too hard. But it has already been affected by it and augmented by it. There are bloggers who are essentially journalists, journalists who are bloggers and bloggers who tend toward journalism."

Just because one has access to new media, said Nokia vice president for multimedia Mauro Montanaro, it does not mean that the content will be better than the ones found in traditional media.

"The problem is that as barriers to entry are getting lower and more people are becoming reporters, it doesn't mean that the content is getting better," he said. "That's why we still need the professionalism in there when people start becoming reporters and cameramen on their own."

Old dog, new tricks

So traditional media has staying power and will not disappear because of the inherent shortcomings of new media, but perhaps the mainstream could also take some tips from new media on how to revitalize reporting. The strength of personal grassroots reports is that they offer views and perspectives that often differ from the tired, old and monolithic ways of TV, radio and newspaper reporting.

The traditional view is that immediacy is the most important ingredient in the news reporting concoction—whoever breaks the news first while retaining accuracy is the winner. But maybe people are looking for a different perspective aside from quick flash reports.

"I think there's 'newsflash fatigue' in the world," said media analyst Tyler Brule in an interview with CNN. "There's been a slight loss of sense of urgency now. People want to see not just breaking news but also a view of what happened the whole day. People want perspective and that's provided by people in the places where the news happens, so we have blogs and podcasts from this country or that, to give a local flavor of what truly happened. And without this perspective in TV, we might see the death of the rolling 24-hour newsflash."

These, according to Brule, are being done by new media and could be integrated into mainstream media to reinvigo-

IBLOG/ B9

NEC VERSA
Pure Freedom and Mobility Anywhere, Anytime.
NEC recommends Windows® XP Professional

Enjoy the freedom and mobility of the NEC VERSA S1100 featuring the Intel® Centrino® Mobile Technology.

Ultra Light-weight. Ultra Portable. Ultra Performance.
The Innovative NEC VERSA S1100 delivers power and reliability, with excellent connectivity and superior wireless technology, powered by Intel® Centrino® Mobile Technology.

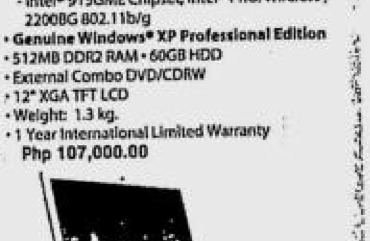
Presenting NEC VERSA
Another innovation from Japan's No.1 PC* Brand

* Based on 2004 Client PC shipment units
Source: IDC Worldwide Quarterly PC Tracker, November 2005.

MOBILE TECHNOLOGY

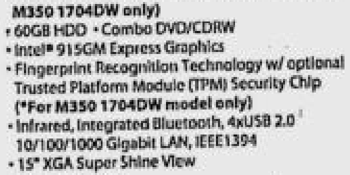
NEC VERSA S1100 1200DW
>Ultra Light-weight. Ultra Mobile. Ultra Performance.
- Intel® Centrino® Mobile Technology
  - Intel® Pentium® M Processor ULV 753 (1.20 GHz, 2MB L2 Cache, 400MHz FSB)
  - Intel® 915GME Chipset, Intel® PRO/Wireless 2200BG 802.11b/g
- Genuine Windows® XP Professional Edition
- 512MB DDR2 RAM • 60GB HDD
- External Combo DVD/CDRW
- 12" XGA TFT LCD
- Weight: 1.3 kg.
- 1 Year International Limited Warranty

▶ Php 107,000.00



NEC VERSA M350 1704DW / 1706DW
>Safe and secured mobile computing with Advanced Fingerprint Recognition Technology*
- Intel® Centrino® Mobile Technology
  - Intel® Pentium® M Processor 740 (1.73 GHz, 2MB L2 Cache, 533MHz FSB)
  - Intel® 915GM Chipset, Intel® PRO/Wireless 2200BG 802.11b/g
- Genuine Windows® XP Home Edition/ Genuine Windows® XP Professional Edition
- 256MB DDR RAM (Free upgrade to 512MB for M350 1704DW only)
- 60GB HDD • Combo DVD/CDRW
- Intel® 915GM Express Graphics
- Fingerprint Recognition Technology w/ optional Trusted Platform Module (TPM) Security Chip (*For M350 1704DW model only)
- Infrared, Integrated Bluetooth, 4xUSB 2.0 10/100/1000 Gigabit LAN, IEEE1394
- 15" XGA Super Shine View
- Weight: 2.9 kg.
- 1 Year International Limited Warranty

▶ Php 69,900.00 (M350 1706DW)
Php 77,000.00 (M350 1704DW)



NEC VERSA S940 1711DR
>Light-weight. Mobile. Advanced Computing Power.
- Intel® Centrino® Mobile Technology
  - Intel® Pentium® M Processor Dothan (1.7 GHz, 2MB L2 Cache, 400MHz FSB)
  - Intel® 855GME Chipset, Intel® PRO/Wireless 2200BG 802.11b/g
- FreeDOS
- 256MB DDR RAM • 40GB HDD
- 5-in-1 Card Reader (SD, MMC, MS, MS Pro, XD)
- DVD Super Multi • Infrared, 2xUSB 2.0
- 13" WXGA Super Shine View (SSV)
- Weight: 2 kg.
- 1 Year International Limited Warranty

▶ Php 63,100.00

Ask for NEC extended warranty.
Sales Inquiry. 6883902 / 6883903
After Sales Technical Helpdesk. 6883555

Website: www.nec-computers-ap.com
Email: ltorres@msi-ecs.com.ph

Reseller channel partner: The Value Systems Phils. Inc. - Tel. No 7161468 / 3380888
Advance Solutions Inc. - Tel No 5247586 / 5264067
ELECTROWORLD - Tel. No 8130154
Octagon Computer Store - Tel Nos 6350080 / 6330318
Information Products - Tel. Nos. 8953436 / 8966110

Distributed in the Philippines by:
msi-ECS Topy II Building, #3 Economia Street, Libis, Quezon City
www.msi-ecs.com.ph

Intel, Intel logo, Intel Inside, Intel Inside logo, Intel Centrino, Intel Centrino logo, Celeron, Intel Xeon, Intel SpeedStep, Itanium, and Pentium are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries.

Empowered by Innovation
NEC

iBlog . . .

From page B8

rate news reporting.

"The challenge is rethinking the game," he said. "The rolling 24-hour news channels are not limited by technology. There's also a question of targeting, but the problem is pretty much everyone is chasing the same angle. The likes of Yahoo! and Google aggregate all of these points of view and analyses coming from blogs so they offer a better overall view beyond the newsflash."

This kind of integration Brule referred to may already be happening as citizen journalism slowly becomes part of the mainstream. This would result in hybrid media that includes grassroots views aside from reports from traditional journalists. This may even be changing theories on communications flow altogether.

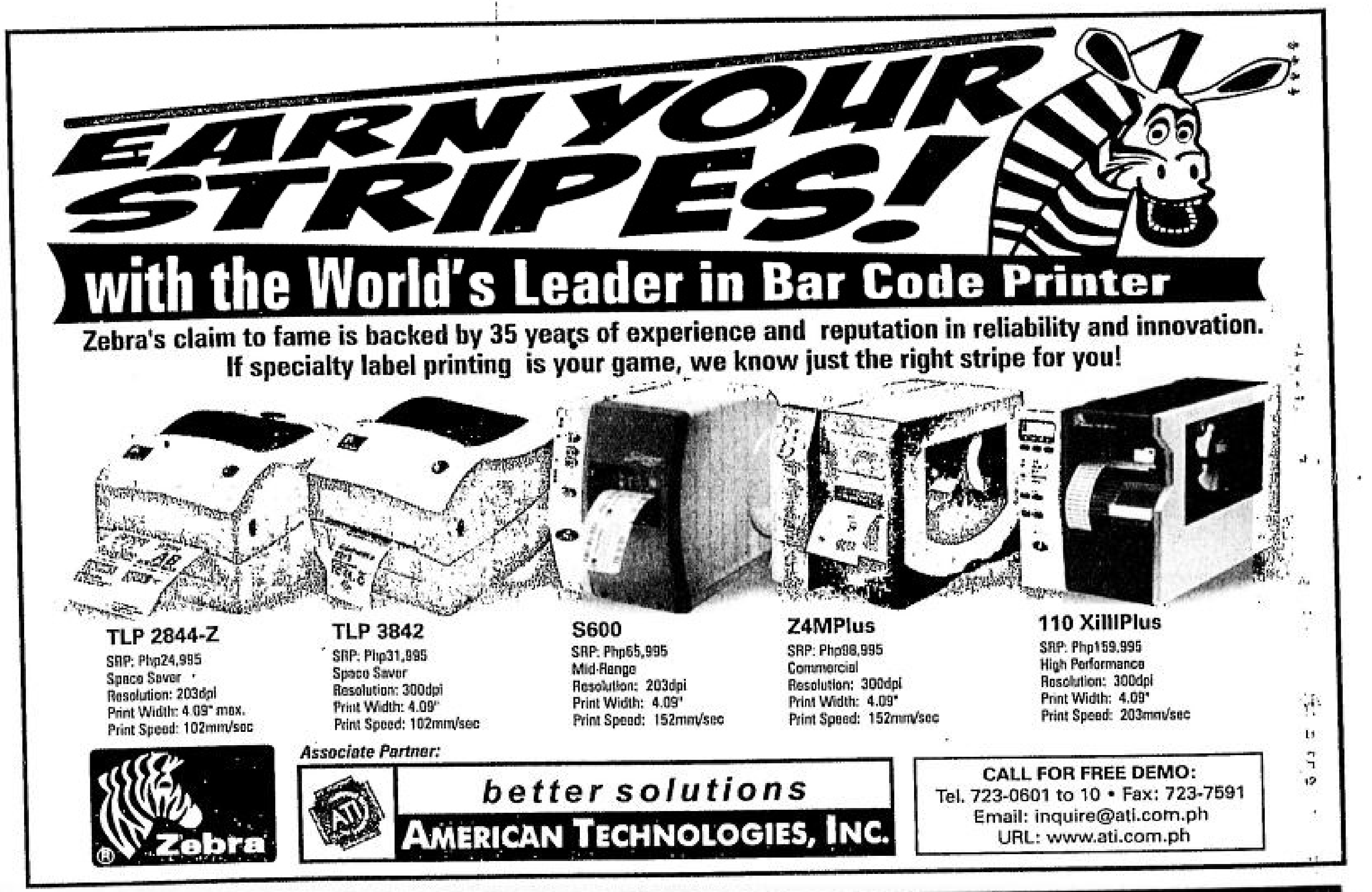
"New types of media will soon emerge," said Pain of the Reporters Without Borders. "I believe in the collaboration between mainstream media and citizen journalists. So far they compete. I hope that in the future they'll be able to work together, each one doing what he does best. We're at the beginning of a revolution for mainstream media. They have to catch the train of citizen journalism, or they'll be in serious trouble."

Going mainstream

Asked if he thought that five years from now, blogs and podcasts would become part of mainstream media, Pain replied:

"I hope so. But maybe in five years bloggers won't exist anymore. Blogs are just a form taken by citizen journalism at a certain point in time. Other forms of citizen journalism will probably emerge and overtake blogging and podcasting. That's what is so great with the Internet. It's evolving very fast."

(To be concluded next week)



with the World's Leader in Bar Code Printer

Zebra's claim to fame is backed by 35 years of experience and reputation in reliability and innovation.
If specialty label printing is your game, we know just the right stripe for you!

TLP 2844-Z	TLP 3842	S600	Z4MPlus	110 XiIIIPlus
SRP: Php24,995	SRP: Php31,995	SRP: Php65,995	SRP: Php98,995	SRP: Php159,995
Space Saver	Space Saver	Mid-Range	Commercial	High Performance
Resolution: 203dpi	Resolution: 300dpi	Resolution: 203dpi	Resolution: 300dpi	Resolution: 300dpi
Print Width: 4.09" max.	Print Width: 4.09"	Print Width: 4.09"	Print Width: 4.09"	Print Width: 4.09"
Print Speed: 102mm/sec	Print Speed: 102mm/sec	Print Speed: 152mm/sec	Print Speed: 152mm/sec	Print Speed: 203mm/sec

Zebra

Associate Partner:

better solutions
AMERICAN TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

CALL FOR FREE DEMO:
Tel. 723-0601 to 10 • Fax: 723-7591
Email: inquire@ati.com.ph
URL: www.ati.com.ph

intel

Tech Support and Maintenance for SMBs: Prevention and Cure

By Ricky Banaag, Country Manager,
Intel Microelectronics Philippines, Inc.

Investment in information technology by small and medium business (SMBs) in Asia is skyrocketing. After weathering the economic downturn, SMBs are now looking to grow their business using information technology (IT), with analysts predicting a remarkable increase of 19% in SMB technology spending in 2004.[1] However, buying hardware is only the first step. The way this technology is managed will greatly affect how profitable the investment will be.

Support and maintenance costs SMBs a great deal of time and money. According to Gartner, the purchase price of a new personal computer (PC) accounts for only 20 to 30 per cent of the total cost of owning that PC, with the rest going to supporting and maintaining this hardware.[2] These support costs rise substantially for older systems, driving up the operational expenses that comprise most of the 70 to 80 per cent of the total cost of owning a computer.[3]

With IT investment surging and system complexity increasing, IT support is crucial to all businesses. System downtime often translates to lost business. So how should an SMB effectively manage its IT system?

The Quick Cure

When you're ill, you usually see a doctor. If you're technology shows symptoms of a glitch, call your "digital doctor" - your IT vendor help desk. Below are some tips to assist the help desk technician assess and fix the problem: .

Right problem, right person

The most important element to remember when talking to a helpdesk is patience! Just as your doctor takes time to walk through your symptoms before developing a diagnosis, help desk technicians must also walk through your system's symptoms. Try to be patient as the technician assesses your problem and identifies a solution.

Occasionally, the help desk technician may require a second opinion to accurately pin point the cause of the problem. Just as you would seek the advice of a medical specialist, don't be afraid to ask for assistance from a higher level engineer or manager if needed. It can sometimes save quite a bit of time.

Keep Detailed Logs

Like doctors keep records of your medical history, keep a record each of your technical problems and the solutions offered by the helpdesk. The effort spent documenting problems can help reduce the long-term costs of your system support, as you will know how to resolve these problems if they arise again.

The Preventative Approach

No one likes being ill, which is why the healthcare concept of "prevention" rather than "cure" is growing in popularity. Most people would rather avoid getting sick, rather than visiting a doctor on a regular basis. Adopting a preventative approach also works for technology systems. In the case of technology, prevention starts with good technology planning. Below are a few considerations to help prevent system downtime and reduce maintenance costs.

Regular PC Replacement Program

Regardless of brand, your technology should be current. The optimum lifecycle is three years for a desktop PC and two years for notebooks. Beyond this timeframe, maintenance and upgrades can cost more than replacing the entire PC! It may sound strange, but without scheduling regular updates, companies tend to practice a "crash and burn" approach to IT maintenance. By replacing computers only when they fail, they not only miss out on the productivity gains of more current computers, but they also wind up with dozens of different hardware configurations and out-of-date software, costing more in ongoing maintenance long term. Orchestrating technical support for such a haphazard system will be a full time job, even if you only have a few of these ailing computers.

Q: Why buy the best PC I can afford?

A: A sufficiently powerful, balanced system allows multitasking to operate effectively. For example, PCs equipped with the latest technologies such as the Intel® Pentium® D processor enables users to multitask and process background tasks more efficiently. With two processor cores, a PC can handle more applications or programs at one time. This means, more system maintenance, such as virus software, backup and indexing, can occur while you are doing work, which means less time spent on the phone trying to fix problems.

Because aging computers can't handle complex applications, they can be a huge IT burden. This sidetracks you from your core business responsibilities and increases maintenance overhead, leading to a more complex and costly system. The older the PC, the more costs accumulate. Time, human resources and component parts are required and repairs can be expensive.

Keeping your system simple

Keeping your system simple by standardizing hardware and software can lower the support costs in the long run. Imagine how much time and effort is wasted re-inventing the wheel if you need to trouble-shoot the same problem of your PCs from different manufacturers.

Conclusion

Managing an IT system should be looked at as an opportunity, not a burden. When your system is running smoothly, its benefits cannot be underestimated. A study in the U.S. found that 93% of all companies that lost their data for 10 days or more filed for bankruptcy within one year of the disaster. A full shutdown like this is uncommon. It usually only results when a company does little or nothing to maintain their IT system's integrity. A little downtime can be all the time your competitors need to move in. But with these simple maintenance techniques, you will be ahead of the game.

# # #

Other names and brands may be claimed as the property of others

---

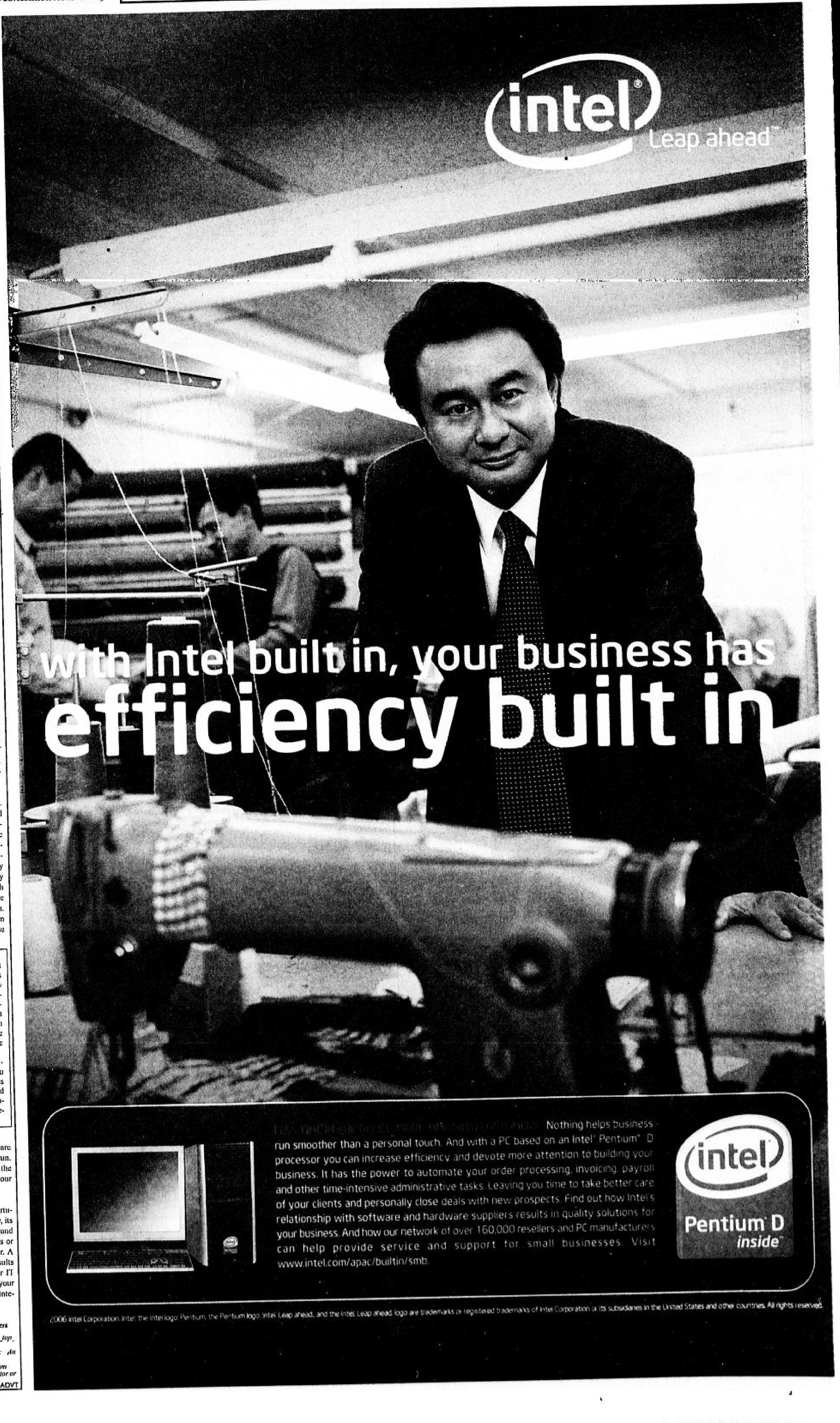
[1] *http://www.amd-partners.com/amd/sections/press/april_2004_top_ten_trends_pr_with_slides.doc, excludes Japan*

[2] *Gartner Research (June 2003). "Linux Desktop TCO: An Overview", Gartner, Inc June 19, 2003*

[3] *The Financial Aspects of PC Fleet Management, www.intel.com*

[4] *"Information security- your responsibility as a company director or manager," Australian Business News magazine, June July 2003*

ADVT



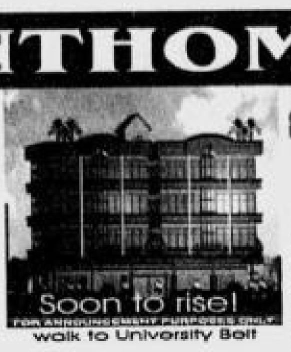
[illegible] Nothing helps business run smoother than a personal touch. And with a PC based on an Intel® Pentium® D processor you can increase efficiency and devote more attention to building your business. It has the power to automate your order processing, invoicing, payroll and other time-intensive administrative tasks. Leaving you time to take better care of your clients and personally close deals with new prospects. Find out how Intel's relationship with software and hardware suppliers results in quality solutions for your business. And how our network of over 160,000 resellers and PC manufacturers can help provide service and support for small businesses. Visit www.intel.com/apac/builtin/smb.

2006 Intel Corporation. Intel, the Intel logo, Pentium, the Pentium logo, Intel Leap ahead, and the Intel Leap ahead logo are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries. All rights reserved.

RSG GUEVENTHOMES

BACOOR only 10 mins from Baclaran!

as low as P950T
30% D/P in easy installment
70% Balance thru In-House convertible to Pag-IBIG Housing Loan



walk to University Belt

as low as P750T
CASH/TERMS
STUDENT CONDO

P6,606/mo*
* Pag-IBIG Housing Loan

534-9921 * 531-0390 * 534-8350 * 531-1384* *(0917) 9385656 *(0920) 961-2418
(0919) 3191105 *(0917) 855-7881 * (0920) 950-4626 * (0920) 911-0002 *(046) 417-3115
(0920) RSGHOME * Toll Free: 1-800-10- RSGHOME * www.guevent.com

---

Republic of the Philippines
City of Cebu
COMMITTEE ON AWARDS

INVITATION TO BID

The City of Cebu, through its Committee on Awards invites individuals/corporations to bid for the disposal of the following Cebu City lot:

> ***The property to be disposed is a Cebu City owned lot with a land area of exactly Forty Six Thousand Three Hundred Forty Five (46,345) square meters located at General Maxilom Avenue, North Reclamation Area (currently occupied by the city's Department of Public Services), covered by TCT No. T-2449.***

Sale will be through public bidding. Minimum bid price is **Twelve Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P12,500.00) per square meter**.

All bids must be accompanied by a bid bond in the form of cash or Manager's Check in an amount equivalent to twenty (20%) of the bid amount. Bidders bond of all losing bids shall be returned when the award is decided.

All particulars relative the Bid Security, Evaluation of Bids and Award shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of COA Circular 92-386, Rules and Regulations on Supply and Property Management in the Local Governments.

The schedule of activities is as follows:

Activities	Schedule	Venue
1. Receipt from prospective bidders of Letters of Intent (LOI)	March 15-30, 2006	City Admin. Office
2. Issuance of Bid Documents	March 15-30, 2006	City Admin. Office
3. Site Inspection	March 31, 2006, 8-12 PM	
4. Pre-Bid Conference	March 31, 2006, 2:00 PM	City Admin. Office
5. Receipt and Opening of Bids	April 11, 2006, 3:00 PM	City Admin. Office

The Committee on Awards will issue Bidding Documents to bidders upon payment of a non-refundable amount of Php 10,000.00 to the Cebu City Cashier.

The City Government of Cebu assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of their bids.

(Sgd.) **TOMAS R. OSMEÑA**
Chairman

(PDI - March 15 & 20, 2006)

PERFECT LOGISTICS PHILS. INC
70 Marcos H-way Cainta Rizal (beside San Benildo School)
MEGA SALE!!!
NEW ARRIVAL EVERY WEEK
ALL UNITS ARE GUARANTEED FRESH IMPORT

GARMA CLINIC
VD SPECIALIST
VD GONORRHEA, WARTS SYPHILIS, STD, HERPES
ADULT CIRCUMCISION
Painless, Bloodless
SKIN DISEASES
ALLERGIES RE-CURRENT
UTI, ALMORANAS,
ERECTION PROBLEMS
INFERTILITY/IMPOTENCE
MOLE/CYST/SCAR REMOVAL
KELOID/PAP SMEAR
COMPLETE LABORATORY
Garma Bldg., No. 8 Purdue St., Cubao, Q.C.
OPEN 9 AM to 6 PM MON. to SAT.
TEL. NOS. 4392706
4373898/9139474

ERA Oceanic REALTY GROUP
LEASE-TO-OWN
Limited Units Only!
8 Wack Wack
2-3BR, 25-35T/mo
Best golf view!
Mandaluyong City
Golf Hill Terraces
15T/mo;Near UP,Ateneo
Adj. Ayala Heights,QC
867-8913 to 17
0917-8479276

MARSIFOR AGENCY
Master in Housekeeping
All Around Maids, Yaya, Cook, Lavandera, Driver, etc.
438-6920 / 439-0075
437-3040

SEND YOUR RESUMÉS INSTANTLY JOB Market ONLINE
Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer and visit it online at www.jobmarketonline.com

---

Republic of the Philippines
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
SEC Building, EDSA Greenhills
Mandaluyong City
CORPORATION FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Republic of the Philippines
Securities and Exchange Commission
Metro Manila

IN THE MATTER OF THE :
REGISTRATION OF SECURITIES :
LEXBER INCORPORATED :
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on September 15, 2005, a registration statement was filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission for and on behalf of **LEXBER INCORPORATED** to cover 1,020 Non-Proprietary Timeshares of Lexber Homes Beachworld Resort (the Project) with an offer price enumerated as follows.

Number of Shares Offered	Unit Price	Offering
Red 500	200	P 225,000
	150	265,000
	150	295,000
White 200	66	175,000
	66	200,000
	66	220,000
Blue 200	66	145,000
	66	165,000
	66	195,000

The total estimated gross proceeds from the offering amount to Two Hundred Twenty Four Million Six Hundred Seventy Thousand Pesos (P224,670,000.00)

According to the papers presented, the following persons are the officers/directors of the corporation:

NAME	POSITION
ALEJANDRO G. CRUZ-HERRERA	Chairman and CEO
BERNARDITA R. CRUZ-HERRERA	Director & Corp. Secretary
ELPIDIO Y. CUSTODIO	Director/Asst. Corp. Secretary
MANUEL R. TOLOME	Director/Assistant Treasurer
ALEXIS R. CRUZ-HERRERA	Principal Operating Officer/Comptroller
RODERICK P. BAYBAYAN	Principal Accounting Officer
ANITA L. MACUTO	Principal Treasury Officer

Said registration statement and other papers/documents attached thereto are open to inspection by interested parties during business hours, and copies thereof, photostatic or otherwise, shall be furnished to every party at such reasonable fees as the Commission may prescribe.

(Sgd.) **JUSTINA F. CALLANGAN**
Director

(PDI - March 18 & 20, 2006)

MANILA GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB, INC.
HARVARD ROAD, FORBES PARK, MAKATI CITY

March 20, 2006

NOTICE OF AUCTION SALE

TO ALL MEMBERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC:

The Bidding Committee of Manila Golf and Country Club, Inc., hereby announces the auction sale of the following described property:

(a) One (1) individual proprietary membership certificate.
(b) One (1) corporate proprietary membership certificate.

Any interested party may submit his/its written bid beginning today until 4:00 p.m., March 31, 2006 to the Office of the Club's General Manager.

The bid shall be subject to the following conditions:

(a) Minimum bid of P11,500,000.00 for individual proprietary membership certificate.
(b) Minimum bid of P12,000,000.00 for corporate proprietary membership certificate.
(c) Bids shall be accompanied by manager's check equivalent to 20% of the bid price payable to the Manila Golf and Country Club, Inc. and the balance within three (3) days from notice of bid acceptance.
(d) Exemption from the transfer fee of P300,000.00.
(e) Certificate will be issued immediately upon receipt of full payment and documentary stamp taxes.

(Sgd.) **CESAR C. CRUZ**
Chairman, Bidding Committee

(PDI–March 20, 2006)

LCR Form 10.1 LCRO

Republic of the Philippines
Local Civil Registry Office
Province of Misamis Oriental
Cagayan de Oro City

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

In compliance with Section 5 of R.A. No. 9048, a notice is hereby served to the public that **Ester L. Mellcor** has filed with this Office a petition for change of first name from **Marina** to **Ester** in the Certificate of Live Birth of **Marina Lee** who was born on December 9, 1948 at Manila City and whose parents are Luis Lee and Julita Soriano.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition within this office not later than March 28, 2006.

(Sgd.) **NORMA S. DIPUTADO**
City Civil Registrar

(PDI - March 20 & 27, 2006)

SALES ENGINEERS

- B.S. Civil Eng'g., Architecture Graduate or any other related courses
- Experienced in selling construction materials an advantage but not necessary
- Not more than 30 years of age

2 FIELD INSPECTOR ENGINEERS

- Male, Graduate or Undergraduate in Civil Engineering
- With technical know how in actual measurements
- Must know how to drive motorcycle, and with valid driver's license
- Not more than 27 years of age

1 MECHANICAL ENGINEER

- Male, Graduate or Undergraduate in Mechanical Engineering
- Working experience in machinery

CALL: Tel. 8951830 / 8967435

APOLLO MINERAL RESOURCES INC.
c/o Unit G, 11th Floor, Strata 100 Building,
F. Ortigas Jr. Avenue (formerly Emerald Avenue),
Ortigas Center, Pasig City
c/o Tel. No. 910-5013; 638-0529; 637-2797

NOTICE OF SPECIAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A SPECIAL MEETING OF ALL STOCKHOLDERS OF APOLLO MINERAL RESOURCES, INC., will be held on 18 April 2006 in the afternoon at Unit G, 11th Floor, Strata 100 Building, F. Ortigas Jr. Avenue (formerly Emerald Avenue), Ortigas Center, Pasig City, to discuss the winding up of the business affairs of the corporation.

When registering your attendance at the aforementioned special stockholders' meeting, please present any valid form of identification, such as company I.D., passport or driver's license.

If you cannot personally attend the meeting and would like to be represented by a Proxy, a written and signed copy of the Proxy must be received by the undersigned not later than April 7, 2006. In case of a corporation, the Proxy must be signed by duly authorized officer.

Pasig City, March 16, 2006.

(Sgd.) **ELENA T. PEREZ**
Acting Corporate Secretary

(PDI - March 20, 27 & Apr. 3, 2006)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

In compliance with PCAB Rules and Regulations governing the accreditation of contractors, notice is hereby given that **DSB CONSTRUCTION & SUPPLY** owned by **DANTE S. BOMBALES** has changed its Business Name to **DSB CONSTRUCTION & SUPPLY, INC.** with business address at Magaysay Avenue, Bacacay, Albay. Following are the Board of Directors and Members of DSB Construction and Supply, Inc.

President
DANTE S. BOMBALES
Treasurer in Trust
ROSARIO R. BOMBALES
Secretary
MA. CORAZON B. ROMANO
Board Members:
NIKKI ANDREA R. BOMBALES
REGINDA R. BARCENAS

(PDI - March 20, 2006)

BUY*SELL*PAWN
WATCHES
JEWELRY
HIGHEST APPRAISAL
8040484/8342886

CALL POEA 24-HOUR HOTLINES
722-1144 or 722-1155

---

25 PTAA
PHILIPPINE TRAVEL AGENCIES ASSOCIATION
1st General Membership Meeting

PTAA INDUCTION OF OFFICERS
Shown from left are: Ma. Bella Cantada - VP for Administration; Maucie Cuna - VP for Outbound; Ma.Paz Alberto - Secretary General; Tellie Francisco - Asst. Secretary General; Lulu Velasco - Treasurer; Paul So - Auditor; Jose Clemente III - President; Congressman Edgar Chatto - Chairman, Committee on Tourism; Teodoro Bautista - Trustee, Norma Cacho - Public Relations Officer; John Paul Cabalza - Trustee; Michelle Sierra - Trustee; Sylvia Sangco-Trustee; Mary Chua - Trustee; Chiqui Teotico - VP for Inbound

DOLE: 750,000 new jobs improve employment level in January

ACTING LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT SECRETARY MANUEL G. IMSON reported that the country's employment situation markedly improved in January 2006 as the total employment volumes nationwide rose by 750,000 compared with the same period last year. Imson, in a memorandum to President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, said that this translates to an employment growth of 2.4 percent, "which is a big improvement from the marginal growth rate of only 0.3 percent posted in 2004." Complementing the local employment growth, the Acting Labor Chief said that the DOLE's optimized marketing efforts earlier resulted in the global deployment, in 2005, of 988,383 overseas Filipino workers (OFWs), or a growth rate of 5.87 percent (54,795) compared to 933,588 in 2004. Imson apprised the President that local employment growth was recorded strongest in the combined agriculture, fishery and forestry sector while employment in the services sector also posted growth. Services employment, he said, posted a 373,000 increase with all sectors registering positive employment growth, a recovery from last year's slump (0.2%). The growth in services employment was highest in private households with employed persons at 102,000, followed by wholesale and retail trade (85,000), education (58,000), and real estate, renting, and business activities (44,000). He added that all but five regions posted growth in employment with the highest observed in Region IV-A at 163,000 followed by Regions XII and VII at 102,000 and 85,000, respectively.

Imson noted that the employment gains in agriculture and services offset the slight 1.9 percent decline registered in the industry sector attributed mainly to the seasonal slump in construction activity.

He said that electricity, gas and water sub-sector remained a bright spot after posting a five percent growth in employment from 128,000 in 2005 to 133,000 in January 2006.

"Occupation-wise, the share of the laborers and unskilled workers posted the biggest increase both in levels and percent share with 382,000 and 0.46 percent point, respectively," Imson further said.

A total of 12 services and industry sub-sectors, along with the agriculture sector, accounted for the 750,000 employment increment posted nationwide this January, Imson said.

2nd Dr. Rodrigo B. Floro Memorial Cup

THE ASIAN HOSPITAL GOLF CLUB HEADED BY ITS PRESIDENT, DR. Hermogenes Villareal, will having the 2nd Dr. Rodrigo B. Floro Memorial Cup on Wednesday, March 22 at the Palmer Course of the Orchard Golf and Country Club, Gen. E. Aguinaldo Km. 27 Highway, Dasmariñas, Cavite. A charitable event in memory and honor of the late Dr. Rodrigo B. Floro, who served as the first medical director of the Asian Hospital and Medical Center (2002-2004), the memorial cup is envisioned to continue to help the various charitable projects which Dr. Floro started during his time, among which are, the Tuloy sa Don Bosco Foundation and the Annual Medical/Surgical/Dental Mission to Aklan, as well as assistance to the Asian Hospital Charities. Registration is on March 22 from 8:00 to 9:30 AM at the main lobby of The Orchard. Shot-Gun Tee-Off will start at 10:00 AM. Among the giveaways and raffle prizes during the awarding ceremonies at 6:00 PM are two Hole-in-One Roundtrip Business Class Tickets to the United States courtesy of Asiana Airlines. For more information and for pre-tournament flight arrangements, interested parties may call golf directors Dr. Ike Mendoza at 0917-6203900 or Dr. Marc Reyes at 0917-5311911

OBITUARIES

For your Classified Ads requirements, call our Classifieds Advertising Hotlines:

HEAD OFFICE: 897-8808 loc. 514, 516; 899-4425; 897-2535; 897-8425 (Telefax)
CUBAO: 912-9008 to 11 (Aurora)
MAKATI: 892-5578; 811-4361; 811-4370
KALAW: 528-0213; 527-3342
MEGAMALL: 635-0219; 635-0220

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS The Wales Road Classifieds
More Classified Ads on pages B6, B11 & B12

THE HERITAGE PARK
FORT BONIFACIO

Let our Funeral Home & Crematory ease your burden

- Elegant & Spacious Chapels
- US-made Caskets
- Catered Meals
- Flowers by Holland Blooms
- Imported Registry Books & Thank You Cards
- Personalized Guest Information Cards
- Horse-drawn Hearse or Cadillac De Ville Hearse
- Obituary Ads

845-2440 • 845-2334 to 38

Incentives for new cement projects sought

Additional capacity needed to meet increasing demand

By Ronnel W. Domingo

A GROUP OF REAL ESTATE developers and contractors are pushing for the entry of more cement factories in a bid to bring down prices of their most important input.

Pedro C. Tario, president of the Chamber of Real Estate Builders Associations, said his group was in favor of enticing new players in the cement industry by including it in the list of preferred sectors qualified for incentives under the government's Investments Priorities Plan.

"We are hopeful that such a move would result in more stable prices of cement in the near future," Tario said.

He said Creba members have been forced to absorb very steep increases in cement prices over the past three years. The price of 40-kilogram bag cement rose to a range of P150 to P170 from only about P70 in 2002.

Creba was reacting to reports that cement manufacturing projects might be able to enjoy incentives again as the government was considering the inclusion of these ventures in the IPP. Cement manufacturing used to be in the IPP but was delisted three years ago because of excess production capacity.

The government started considering its inclusion in the list again after data showed the possibility of production falling short of the fast-growing demand for cement.

Projections in the Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan for 2004-2010 indicate that the construction industry's demand for cement would grow at an average of 12 percent a year, which means demand could reach 468 million bags in 2010, which is higher than the existing production capacity of 462 million bags.

But Tario said the shortage situation was already evident despite claims of the Cement Manufacturers Association of the Philippines about current capacity and demand.

"How can selling prices be at historic highs when demand is weak and there is alleged overcapacity in the industry?" the Creba chief asked.

Tario said the government should look into the matter of the "true domestic supply situation" and not rely on reported numbers from existing manufacturers.

Let's cancel our Newsweek subscriptions

QUESTIONS OF POLICIES

Honesto C. General

IN THE MARCH 6 ISSUE OF Newsweek, reporters Marites Vitug and Joe Cochrane wrote in the Periscope section: "Indeed, the Philippines remains so impoverished that the very middle class that's expected to nurture political pluralism is actually shrinking."

This incredible sentence is not a quote from a report of the census bureau or any of the absurd opinion survey firms that abound in Manila. By itself, Newsweek figured out that the middle class is shrinking.

Newsweek did not say whether an expansion of the lower class caused the shrinkage, or some of the middle class sank to the lower class and/or rose to the upper crust.

How did Newsweek compute the shrinkage? How many noses were counted? How many income tax returns were examined? What crystal ball was used?

We only have to look around us to dispute Newsweek. If you drive up north of Manila on the main highway, you will see fields planted to rice, corn, sugar cane and tobacco. If you drive south to Bicol, you will also see coconut plantations and citrus groves heavy with fruit.

Since the daytime traffic is clogged with cargo trucks, people prefer to travel at night. When I was in Davao two years ago, the sprawling banana plantations were still there. My guess is the Visayas is thriving as well.

This impoverished country spends more on education than national defense. This has been the unwavering government policy since before World War II.

Today, over 21 million—fully one-fourth of the population—and more than the population of Australia, are in school. This is unmatched in the Third World and, I suspect, in most of the First.

Our colleges and universities can accommodate quite comfortably the entire population of Singapore. Every year, half a million men and women earn college diplomas on a dizzying array of disciplines.

In government schools, education up to high school is tuition free. Private schools, especially Catholic schools, buttress the vast educational system.

Out of school youth is still a problem, but an improving economy should bring this problem down.

Because of our universal educational system, eight million (almost 10 percent of the population) Filipinos find lucrative work abroad. There is no hospital in the US that does not have a Filipino doctor and nurse.

Filipino engineers are building roads and bridges in Afghanistan. A quarter of a million Filipino able seamen man ocean-going vessels, including American aircraft carriers.

The Filipino woman has been making her mark abroad. More countries are discovering the fine Filipino nurse. President Clinton's personal lady physician at the White House was a Filipino. After his recent heart bypass operation, a Filipino nurse took care of him at the ICU. Now, the first lady head chef at the White House is a Filipino.

These overseas Filipino workers send back to their impoverished country $10 billion a year through the banking system. Through unofficial conduits, they send another $15 billion a year. (Only the migrant workers of India and Mexico send more money home.)

This cold cash is spent on new homes, education for the kids, insurance policies and to splurge at Star City.

In multinational firms, Filipinos now occupy senior executive positions that used to be the exclusive preserve of expatriate foreigners.

Our impoverished country has a vibrant life insurance industry. The Insurance Commission reports that, in the five-year period ending 2003, new policies increased by an unprecedented average of about 34 percent yearly. The top life insurance firms continue to post record sales.

This is the best indicator that the middle class is actually expanding.

Of course, poverty still stalks the land. Two blocks from my house is a squatter colony. Every day, I pass by the hovels along the railroad tracks. But, I have no doubt that more and more gutsy Filipinos are scratching their way out of poverty than ever before.

I wrote Newsweek that I was not renewing my subscription. How about you?

BSP issues tougher . . .

From page B1

was in line with the BSP's recent moves to tighten its own policy as a lender of last resort in dealing with banks or with the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp.

Tetangco said problem banks with an existing MoA with the BSP on prompt corrective action would have a better chance of getting emergency liquidity or any other government-supported assistance.

Another BSP official said the PCA framework would work on a case-to-case basis. A major departure from the BSP's old tack was that a different set of criteria had now been set to determine what would trigger the enforcement of PCA.

"The enforcement of PCA, in the past, was limited to undercapitalization," the official said. "Now it will consider other factors, recognized under international standards, that affect the viability of an entity."

Doris C. Dumlao

Gov't to raise . . .

From page B1

the government currently gets 58 centavos from the domestic market and 42 centavos from foreign sources such as commercial sovereign bond floats and official development assistance (ODA) loans from multilateral agencies.

"We don't know yet what the new ratio will be," a DBCC source said. "It's now under study by the BSP."

The source said the government would likely cut down on foreign commercial bond issuances this year instead of giving up cheaper ODA lending windows from foreign donors.

For the rest of the year, the government has to raise another $900 million to complete its planned borrowing of $3.1 billion from foreign commercial sources.

"If we borrow in pesos, the better for us because the peso is strong," said another source from the BSP. "The government should even prepay some commercial foreign loans."

The BSP last week announced the planned prepayment of $500 million worth of debts in April or six months ahead of maturity, taking advantage of the historic rise in the country's gross international reserves.

Republic of the Philippines
PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION
Citystate Centre, 709 Shaw Boulevard, Pasig City
Healthline 637-9999 www.philhealth.gov.ph

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
No. 2006-009 g

RE-BIDDING FOR THE LEASE OF ADDITIONAL WAREHOUSE
(FOR THE USE OF MOTOR POOL AND SUPPLY UNITS)

The **Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth)**, through the Corporate Operating Budget (COB) 2006, intends to apply the sum of **PhP4,320,000.00** being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for the Lease for two (2) years of Additional Warehouse for the use of the Motor Pool and Supply Units. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening.

PhilHealth now invites Bids from eligible Bidders to apply for eligibility and to bid for the Bidding for the Lease of Additional Warehouse for the use of the Motor Pool and Supply Units, with the following specifications:

1. **Location**

The location of the warehouse shall be within one (1) kilometer radius from the Citystate Centre. The area must not be subject to flooding.

2. **Basic Requirements**

2.1. **Floor Area** : 1,000 sq.m. to 1,200 sq.m. it may be a single unit, or two (2) separate units with a total area of 1,000 sq.m. to 1,200 sq.m.
2.2. **Flooring** : Concrete Finish
2.3. **Electricity** : With Power supply and serviceable electrical lighting
2.4. **Water Supply & Drainage System** : With Water supply and existing/working drainage system
2.5. **Office Space** : With existing office space (enclosed structure)

3. **Other Conditions**

3.1. Free moving-in for a period of thirty (30) days.
3.2. Major repair shall be undertaken by the lessor.
3.3. Title must be free from liens and encumbrances.
3.4. Lessor guarantees peaceful, continued and uninterrupted use of the premises, with full beneficial use of the leased premises.
3.5. Repair and washing of vehicles shall be allowed at least in the one-half portion of the warehouse.
3.6. The lessor shall perform the following:
3.6.1. Termite Control once a year
3.6.2. Pest and Rodent Control every three (3) months

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of the Republic Act 9184, otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," and is restricted to Filipino Citizens/Sole Proprietorships, organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws of regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino Citizens, pursuant to Republic Act 5183 and subject to Commonwealth Act 138. Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) shall advance to the post-qualification stage in order to finally determine responsiveness of the bid to technical and financial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bidder (LCRB) who was determined as such after the post-qualification procedure.

Interested Bidders may obtain further information from the **Office of the Secretariat for the Bids and Awards Committees (OSBAC)** in the Central Office of PhilHealth, Room 1107, 11th floor Citystate Centre, 709 Shaw Blvd., Pasig City, and inspect the Bidding Documents from **8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by Interested Bidders from March 15 to 29, 2006 at the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee in the amount of **PhP3,000.00** cash. The prospective Bidder or his authorized representative shall receive the Bidding Documents personally.

PhilHealth will hold a **Pre-Bid Conference** open to all interested parties on **March 31, 2006 at 10:30 a.m. at the OSBAC Conference Room** (Rm. 1106), PhilHealth Central Office, 11th floor Citystate Centre, 709 Shaw Blvd., Brgy. Oranbo, Pasig City.

Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered to the **OSBAC Conference Room on or before April 17, 2006, 10:30 a.m.** The official time shall be based on the wall clock located at the **OSBAC Conference Room.** Late Bids shall not be accepted.

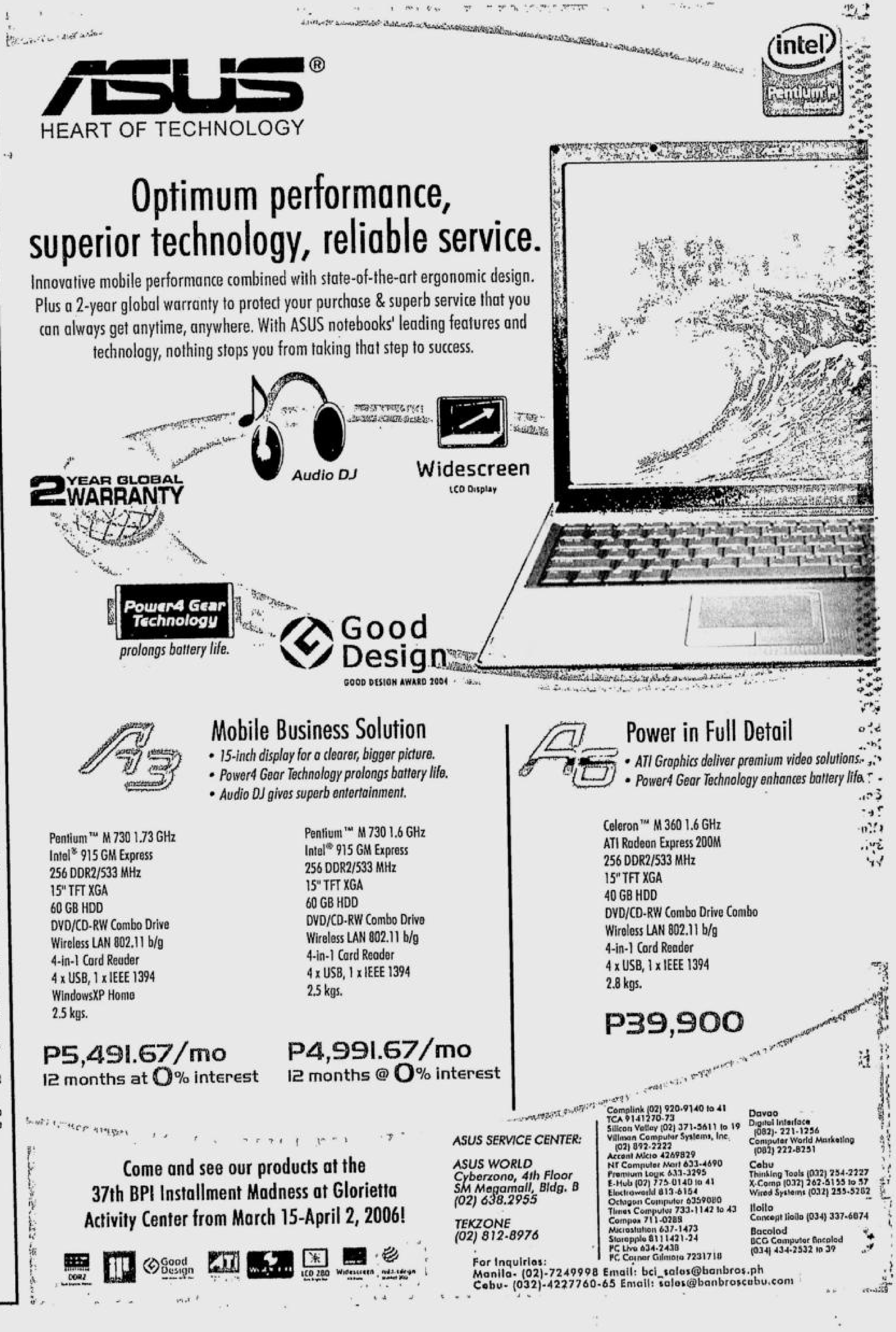
Bid opening shall be on April 17, 2006, 10:30 a.m. at OSBAC Conference Room. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend.

PhilHealth shall require the prospective bidders to submit copy of contracts within the relevant period of CY 2004 and CY 2005 whether ongoing, completed or awarded but not yet started.

PhilHealth reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

Office of the Secretariat for the Bids and Awards Committees in the Central Office
Mr. Joseph O. Vergara
Rm. 1107, 11th Floor Citystate Centre
709 Shaw Blvd. Brgy. Oranbo, Pasig City
Tel. (02) 637-9999 locals 1128, 1130 and 1830
e-mail add: osbac@philhealth.gov.ph
Facsimile No. 637-4735
www.philhealth.gov.ph

(Sgd.) Atty. VALENTIN C. GUANIO
Chairperson, Bids and Awards Committee for Goods and Services
(PDI–March 13 & 20, 2006)



ASUS®
HEART OF TECHNOLOGY

Optimum performance, superior technology, reliable service.

Innovative mobile performance combined with state-of-the-art ergonomic design. Plus a 2-year global warranty to protect your purchase & superb service that you can always get anytime, anywhere. With ASUS notebooks' leading features and technology, nothing stops you from taking that step to success.

2 YEAR GLOBAL WARRANTY
Audio DJ
Widescreen LCD Display
Power4 Gear Technology prolongs battery life.
Good Design GOOD DESIGN AWARD 2004

A3 Mobile Business Solution
- 15-inch display for a clearer, bigger picture.
- Power4 Gear Technology prolongs battery life.
- Audio DJ gives superb entertainment.

Pentium™ M 730 1.73 GHz
Intel® 915 GM Express
256 DDR2/533 MHz
15" TFT XGA
60 GB HDD
DVD/CD-RW Combo Drive
Wireless LAN 802.11 b/g
4-in-1 Card Reader
4 x USB, 1 x IEEE 1394
WindowsXP Home
2.5 kgs.

P5,491.67/mo
12 months at 0% interest

Pentium™ M 730 1.6 GHz
Intel® 915 GM Express
256 DDR2/533 MHz
15" TFT XGA
60 GB HDD
DVD/CD-RW Combo Drive
Wireless LAN 802.11 b/g
4-in-1 Card Reader
4 x USB, 1 x IEEE 1394
2.5 kgs.

P4,991.67/mo
12 months @ 0% interest

A6 Power in Full Detail
- ATI Graphics deliver premium video solutions.
- Power4 Gear Technology enhances battery life.

Celeron™ M 360 1.6 GHz
ATI Radeon Express 200M
256 DDR2/533 MHz
15" TFT XGA
40 GB HDD
DVD/CD-RW Combo Drive Combo
Wireless LAN 802.11 b/g
4-in-1 Card Reader
4 x USB, 1 x IEEE 1394
2.8 kgs.

P39,900

Come and see our products at the
37th BPI Installment Madness at Glorietta
Activity Center from March 15-April 2, 2006!

ASUS SERVICE CENTER:

ASUS WORLD
Cyberzone, 4th Floor
SM Megamall, Bldg. B
(02) 638.2955

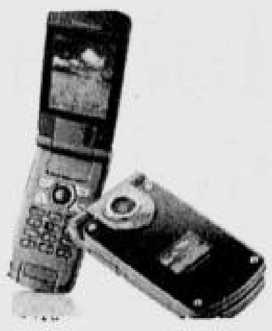
TEKZONE
(02) 812-8976

Complink (02) 920-9140 to 41
TCA 9141270-73
Silicon Valley (02) 371-5611 to 19
Villman Computer Systems, Inc. (02) 892-2222
Accent Micro 4269829
NT Computer Mart 633-4690
Premium Logic 633-3295
E-Hub (02) 775-0140 to 41
Electroworld 813-6154
Octagon Computer 6359080
Times Computer 733-1142 to 43
Compex 711-0288
Microstation 637-1473
Storapple 8111421-24
PC Live 634-2438
PC Corner Gilmore 7231718

Davao
Digital Interface (082)- 221-1256
Computer World Marketing (082) 222-8251
Cebu
Thinking Tools (032) 254-2227
X-Comp (032) 262-5155 to 57
Wired Systems (032) 255-5282
Iloilo
Concept Iloilo (034) 337-6874
Bacolod
BCG Computer Bacolod (034) 434-2532 to 39

For Inquiries:
Manila- (02)-7249998 Email: bci_sales@banbros.ph
Cebu- (032)-4227760-65 Email: sales@banbroscebu.com

Panasonic launches clearest camera phones



PANASONIC VS7: One push auto open features

PANASONIC MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS CO LTD presents two new cutting edge high-definition camera phones-the VS6 and VS7-that are literally setting the new standards in the mobile phone industry.

With the VS6's super slim clamshell design, the 2.0 mega-pixel camera phone boasts of fine quality photographs and movies. It is supported by a high-definition 2.2-inch QVGA screen with an outstanding brightness of 300 candela/m2-this means that it is up to 50 percent brighter than other handsets in the market and offers images that seem to leap out to life! The 16 million colors on its screen brings up the VS6 as one of the most technically advanced screen technology in the market today.

The built-in 2.0 mega-pixel, 5x digital zoom camera comes with a 15-frame continuous shooting function, which is perfect for snapshots taken in quick succession. The camera also allows the user to take close-up shots of subjects with crisp, sharp images. The VS6 has 32MB of built-in memory for storing the photos and in addition to the impressive camera function, the handset has video capability, allowing users to capture and playback video footage with sound. The VS6 comes with Bluetooth wireless technology allowing users to share images and video clips effortlessly and also enjoy wire-free connectivity when using a Bluetooth handsfree headset.

The VS6 just weighs 101g and is only 21mm thin. The "one push auto open" function provides quick and easy access to all of the VS6's functions. Users can enjoy real music ringtones as well as interactive gaming with 3D games and Java is supported for you to download more. The VS6 is a GPRS triband phone that can support up to eight hours of talk time or a standby time of up to 430 hours. It is available in a sleek black color.

Brightest screen

The latest star to shine among Panasonic's state-of-the-art mobile phones, of course, is VS7. An upgraded version of the VS6, the VS7 has the brightest and clearest screen to date with its high-performance large 2.5-inch color TFT screen. It features a 240 x 320 pixels QVGA resolution enhanced to approximately 16 million colors and a brightness that goes as high as high as 300 candela/m2. Capture portraits or your favorite moments through its digital two megapixel camera with video recording and be impressed by its screen, which depicts images that always look remarkably true to life! You can also read the very clear screen in almost all kinds of lighting situations. Even better, the VS7 is MP3-capable so you can download ringtones using this feature.

It is also equipped with the same impressive 2.0 megapixel resolution. Its backlight compensation ensures every image captured and shown on screen is very clear. With the help of the 5x Zoom function, just zoom in to wonderfully capture every detail.

The VS7 features Bluetooth connectivity as well. The VS7 comes equipped with high-speed GPRS that connects you to the Internet with ease. Other interesting features include its clamshell design, external color screen, and changeable faceplates. The front LCD shows incoming or missed calls, even SMS. You can even read your new text messages without flipping the phone to open, simply press the scroll button to read the SMS.

For more information on Panasonic VS6 and VS7, check the website of Panasonic Mobile Communications Co Ltd at www.panasonic.co.jp/pmc/en.

STANDARD CHARTERED BANK, PLDT INK CONTRACT

Standard Chartered Bank, the first operating foreign bank and the second longest established bank in the Philippines, recently signed a contract with PLDT for various corporate products and services. Shown seated from left are Nerissa Ramos, PLDT FVP and head of corporate business solutions; Ernesto Alberto, PLDT SVP and head of corporate business group; Eugene Ellis, Standard Chartered Bank chief executive officer and Nhilda Causing, Standard Chartered Bank country operating officer. Standing, from left, are Ginny Tacoloy, PLDT relationship manager; Katrina Luna-Abelarde, PLDT AVP and business head; Rufino Villaluna, Standard Chartered Bank country technology manager and Dave Medel, Standard Chartered Bank IT AVP.

Republic of the Philippines
TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
East Service Rd., South Superhighway, Taguig, Metro Manila

Resolution No. 2005-18

APPROVING THE PROVISIONAL ASSESSMENT FEES BY QUALIFICATION

WHEREAS, during the 46th TESDA Board Meeting held last 19 May 2005 TESDA Board members approved Board Resolution No. 2005-07 "The Adoption of the Guidelines in the Implementation of the Philippine TVET Qualification and Certification System;

WHEREAS, Section 7 of the Guidelines in the Implementation of the Philippine TVET Qualification and Certification Systems provides that "Assessment fees shall be based on the cost of supplies and materials as well as administrative expenses including assessor's honoraria, power and utilities, depreciation and maintenance costs. Assessment Fees shall be subject to change to allow for any possible adjustments due to costs increases;"

WHEREAS, during the 11th Finance TESDA Board-TESDA Secretariat Consultation Meeting which was held 14 October 2005, the cost of Assessment Fees by Qualification were deliberated and favorably recommended for consideration of the EXCOM-TESDA Board;

WHEREAS, during the 44th EXCOM-TESDA Board Meeting held 27 October 2005 the EXCOM-TESDA Board endorsed favorably the list of assessment fees by qualification for a period of six (6) months pilot implementation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Board approves the provisional assessment fees by qualification for a period of six (6) months subject to evaluation of its pilot implementation and submission of its findings and recommendations;

BE IT RESOLVED FINALLY, that copies or the Resolution hard and soft copies of Provisional Assessment Fees by Qualification schedule be disseminated to all concerned.

Adopted this 10th day of November 2005.

(Sgd.) **MR. ELMER K. TALAVERA**
Executive Director, Planning Office
Officer-In-Charge, TESDA Board Secretariat

Attested by:

(Sgd.) **SECRETARY AUGUSTO BOBOY SYJUCO**
Alternate Chair, TESDA Board
Director General, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority

(Sgd.) **SECRETARY PATRICIA A. STO. TOMAS**
Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE)
Chair, TESDA Board

(PDI–March 19 & 20, 2006)

DBP Development Bank of the Philippines

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Development Bank of the Philippines is inviting interested bidders to apply for eligibility and to bid for:

PROJECT	APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE CONTRACT
Hiring of Services of an Event Agency/ Communications Outfit to handle the DBP SLDP Logistics Race Promotions Program to boost tourism through the use of the country's Road Roll-on Roll-off (RoRo) Terminal System	**P 3,000,000.00** **SOURCE OF FUND: DBP FUNDS**
*Bids received in excess of the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) shall be automatically rejected at Bid Opening.	

Contract Begins: May 2006
Schedule of Activities:

Particulars	Date	Venue
Submission and Opening of Letter of Intent (LOI) and Eligibility Requirement Documents (Prospective Bidders are encouraged to attend the Opening of Eligibility Requirements Documents)	"On or before" 9:00 a.m. of March 27, 2006 (Monday)	BAC Secretariat, 6th Floor, DBP Building, Makati City
Issuance of Bid Data Sheet/Terms of Reference	March 28-29, 2006	BAC Secretariat, 6th Floor, DBP Building, Makati City
Pre-Bidding Conference	March 29, 2006 (Wednesday) at 9:00 a.m.	OPS Conference Room, 6th Floor, DBP Building, Makati City
Submission of Technical Proposal and Financial Proposal of Eligible Consultants/Bidders	"On or before" 9:00 a.m. of April 10, 2006 (Monday)	BAC Secretariat, 6th Floor, DBP Building, Makati City
Opening of Technical Proposal (Eligible Bidders are encouraged to attend the Opening of Technical Proposals)	April 10, 2006 (Monday) at 9:30 a.m.	OPS Conference Room, 6th Floor, DBP Building, Makati City

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures as specified in the IRR-A of R.A. 9184, and is restricted to Filipino citizens of organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest belonging to citizens of the Philippines. The process for the eligibility check is described in the Eligibility Documents. Only those that are eligible will be allowed to submit bids.

The contract will only be awarded to the Highest Rated and Responsive Bidder who was determined as such during the post-qualification. Interested parties may secure the Eligibility Requirement Forms from the BAC Secretariat, 6th Floor, DBP Building, Makati City or you may download these forms at **www.devbankphil.com.ph** and at the Electronic Procurement Service of the Department of Budget and Management. A non-refundable fee of Php1,000.00 will be charged to all eligible bidders. Quality Based Evaluation/Selection (QBE/QBS) method of evaluation will be used in the evaluation of proposals. The criteria and rating for the evaluation of bids shall be provided in the Terms of Reference (TOR).

The Bank reserves the right to reject any and all bids, annul the bidding process, or not award the contract at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

For further inquiries, please call telephone numbers 8125702 / 8189511 loc. 2610.

Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI–March 14 & 20, 2006)

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDED MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

DATED FEBRUARY 14, 2006 DEFINING THE GUIDELINES ON TRANSFERABILITY OF TAX CREDIT CERTIFICATES ISSUED UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 226, THE OMNIBUS INVESTMENT CODE

Pursuant to Section 9 of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) dated October 13, 2000 executed by and between the Board of Investments (BOI) and the Department of Finance (DOF) in compliance with the provision of Article 21 of Executive Order No. 226 (E.O. 226) regarding the transferability of tax credit certificates (TCCs) issued under the said E.O., the following additional guidelines are hereby adopted:

"1. *Transfers by companies belonging to a distressed industry sector:*

Transferors belonging to an industry sector which BOI has assessed to be in distress shall be allowed to transfer their outstanding TCCs to any BOI registered transferees *and government financial institutions* without requiring them to comply with the conditions imposed under Section 1c, 1e and 1f of the prevailing MOA, *provided* that this type of transfer shall be allowed for one year only from official notification to the Center by BOI that the industry sector is in distress, without prejudice to renewal thereof upon approval by the Executive Committee."

"2. *Section 9 of the MOA is hereby amended to include the following paragraph:*

"Henceforth, in order to simplify the administrative process in amending the existing MOA, and since BOI and DOF are well represented in the Center's Excom, any amendment to the prevailing MOA including exceptions to the guidelines for meritorious consideration shall now be done through a resolution duly approved by the Center's Executive Committee which resolution shall be for implementation without the need for another MOA between BOI and DOF, subject to compliance with the provisions of EO 226 and with the required administrative procedures under the Administrative Code."

(Sgd.) **PETER B. FAVILA**
Secretary
Department of Trade & Industry

(Sgd.) **MARGARITO B. TEVES**
Secretary
Department of Finance

Signed in the presence of:

(Sgd.) **ELMER C. HERNANDEZ**
Undersecretary
Board of Investments

(Sgd.) **GAUDENCIO A. MENDOZA, JR.**
Undersecretary
DSS-CENTER

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES }
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION } S.S.
CITY OF MANILA }

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 09 day of MARCH, 2006 in the City of Manila, affiants exhibited to me their Community Tax Certificates as follows:

NAMES	CTC Number	ISSUED AT	ISSUED ON
MARGARITO B. TEVES	14026438	Manila	8-02-05
PETER B. FAVILA	20564958	Makati	2-24-06

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal for the day, year, and place above written.

Doc. No. : 188
Page No. : 39
Book No. : XII
Series of 2006

(Sgd.) **ATTY. JOAQUIN M. CHUA**
NOTARY PUBLIC MANILA
COMMISSION EXPIRES–DEC. 31, 2006
P.T.R. NO 3721596-1-31-05 MLA.
ROLL OF ATTORNEY NO. 25202
IBP O.R. NO 595079-1-25-05

(PDI – March 13, 20 & 27, 2006)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Department of Education
REGIONAL OFFICE NO. VIII
Government Center, Candahug, Palo, Leyte

DepED DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The **Department of Education, Regional Office No. VIII** through its Bids and Awards Commitite (BAC), invites contractors registered with and classified by the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) to apply for eligibility and if found eligible, to bid for the hereunder contract:

CLUSTER NUMBER	Name of Contract	Location	Approved Budget for the Contract	Contract Duration
Cluster I	1) Completion of School Buildings (2nd Phase)	Catarman Sped Center, Catarman, N. Samar	965,000.00	
	2) Construction of 2 classroom sch. bldg. (7m x 9m)	Maydolong NHS Maydolong, E. Samar	1,544,000.00	
TOTAL			2,509,000.00	180 CD
Cluster II	1) Construction of 2 cl School Bldg. (7m x 9m)	Ybañez ES Tabango, Leyte	772,000.00	
	2) Construction of 2 cl School Bldg. (7m x 9m)	Villaba Comprehensive NHS	772,000.00	
	3) Construction of 2 cl School Bldg. (7m x 7m)	Lib-og PS Maasin City	607,950.00	
TOTAL			2,151,950.00	180 CD

Prospective bidders should possess a valid PCAB License applicable to the contract, have completed a similar contract with a value of at least 50% of the ABC, and have key personnel and equipment (listed in the Eligibility Forms) available for the prosecution of the contract. The BAC will use non-discretionary pass/fail criteria in the Eligibility Check/screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids. The BAC will conduct post-qualification of the lowest calculated bids.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference, Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR).

The schedule of BAC activities is as follows:

BAC Activities	Schedule
1. Receipt from prospective bidders of Letters of Intent (LOI) Including Application of Eligibility & issuance of Eligibility Forms	March 28 – April 11, 2006
2. Receipt of Eligibility Requirements	March 28 – April 12, 2006
3. Notice of Results of Eligibility Check	April 19, 2006
4. Issuance of Bid Documents	April 20 – April 27, 2006
5. Pre-Bid Conference	May 19, 2006, 2:00 p.m.
6. Receipt and Opening of Bids	May 31, 2006, 2:00 p.m.

The BAC will issue to prospective bidders Eligibility forms at DepEd RO 8, Government Center, Candahug, Palo, Leyte, upon their submission of a LOI, prospective bidders shall submit the Eligibility requirements to the DepEd RO BAC at the said address. They may also obtain the results of the Eligibility Check by the BAC at the same address.

The BAC will issue Bidding Documents only to bidders declared by the BAC to be eligible for bidding upon payment of a non-refundable amount of Php3,000.00 to the DepED RO 8 Cashier.

The Deped RO 8 assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of their bids.

Approved by:

(Sgd) **ATTY. ALBERTO T. ESCOBARTE**
OIC-Assistant Regional Director
BAC Chairman

(PDI-March 13 & 20, 2006)

Retention of 35% tender offer threshold sought

THE PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE AND three business organizations have urged the Securities and Exchange Commission to retain the existing threshold on tender offers, saying a lower trigger point will create ramifications detrimental to the capital markets.

The PSE, Investment Houses Association of the Philippines, Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines, and the Bankers Association of the Philippines noted the adverse ramifications in a position paper they submitted to the SEC last week.

Under the implementing rules of the Securities Regulation Code, the threshold was set at 35 percent of the market capitalization of a listed company.

The SEC is currently reviewing the tender offer rule for a possible adjustment in the trigger point.

The PSE and the business groups, however, said a lower trigger point would drive away investors, because it would jack up the cost of stock market transactions, delay the execution of these deals and expose affected investors to unnecessary risks.

Also, a lower threshold will upset PSE's plans to introduce sophisticated market instruments, thereby constricting the growth of the exchange.

The position paper was signed by PSE president and CEO Francis Lim, BAP president Cesar Virata, Finex president David Balangue and Ihap president Natividad Alejo.

A tender offer is a solicitation from a company or a third party to buy shares of a corporation for a fixed period of time usually at a premium.

The rule was aimed at protecting minority owners who may be left out, if the buyer extends the offer only to strategic partners or majority owners of a company.

The rule, thus, require the buyer to extend the offer to all stockholders of the affected company, if the level of the buyer's investment touches off a trigger point or threshold.

Slow week ahead

From page B1

picture, but the overall outlook is positive," AB Capital Securities said.

Even with a dearth of market-moving news, the composite index or PSEi rose 2 percent to 2,150 last week.

Banks hogged the spotlight last week after both chambers of Congress approved the extension of the Special Purpose Asset Vehicle act.

Investors also cheered the news that commercial lending grew 3 percent to P1.6 trillion year-on-year as of January, according to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

"Bank lending improves, but don't get excited," AB Capital Securities wrote in a weekly report. "The growth was a significant jump from the 0.9 percent increase registered for the month of December 2005. Bank lending is expected to remain weak to moderate over the short term."

Bank of the Philippine Islands was among the gainers last week, closing 5 percent higher at P62 a share. BPI gained on news that it revised earnings upwards after making accounting related adjustments.

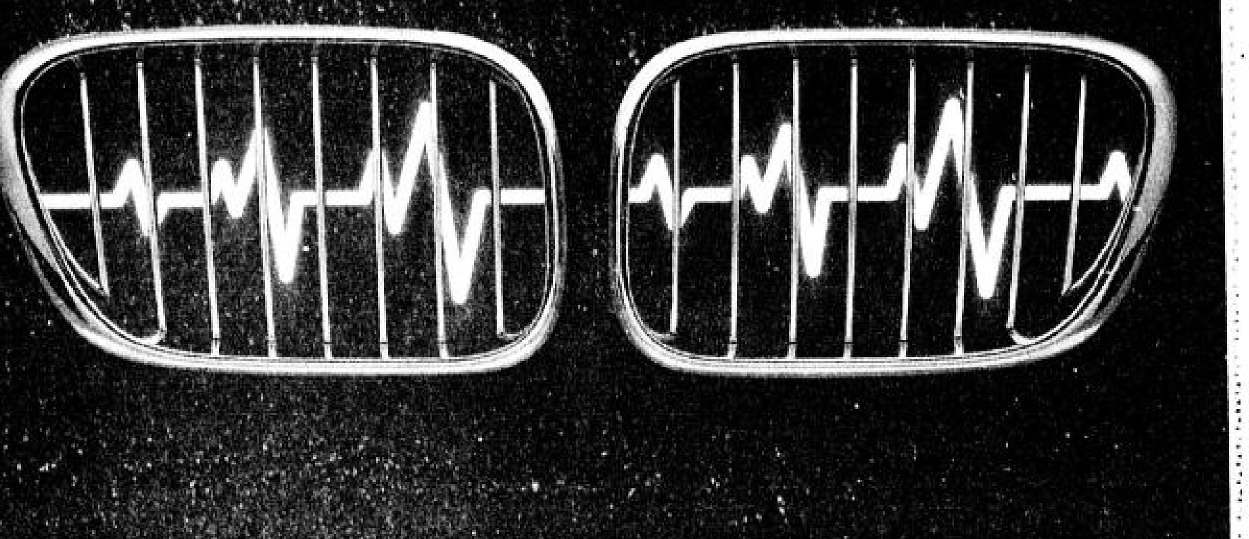
Another stellar performer is Equitable PCI Bank after news that an unidentified buyer has emerged who was willing to buy the SM Group's 34 percent block at P95 a piece. EPCIB's share price shot up 20 percent to a high of P78 last week.

Online broker 2TradeAsia.Com meanwhile said investors may be buying ahead of second quarter corporate earnings.

" With the regression in turnover Friday, healthy breathers are likely, as the index prepares for its next rise near 2,200," 2TradeAsia.Com said in a weekly report. "Immediate support is 2,140, resistance at 2,170 to 2,180."

Elizabeth L. Sanchez

Excitement with a touch of Prestige.



In celebration of the BMW Xpo month, Prestige Cars Makati presents a line-up of exclusive offerings.

- 10% downpayment, 7 years financing on all BMW models*
- 0% interest on select BMW Premium Selection units**
- An opportunity to get 1-year worth of fuel from Petron for every BMW purchase
- Institut Santre gift certificates for every BMW purchase
- Access to exclusive benefits and privileges by being a member of the Prestige BMW Club

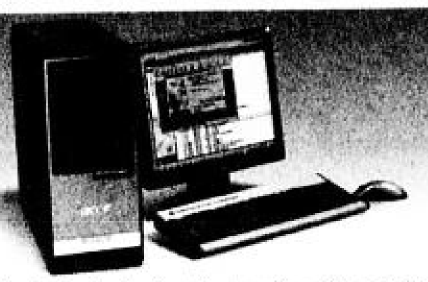
*Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0961, Series of 2006
**Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1457, Series of 2006

BMW 2006

Prestige Cars BMW 2324 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City • Tel. 892 8127 to 29

Get more from your business with the right desktop PCs

Latest Veriton model from Acer to enhance value of SOHO's businesses



Already a top-of-mind choice in the laptop PC market, Acer, one of the world's leading computer brands, makes a play for greater share of the business desktop market in the Philippines with the launch of its latest **Acer Business Desktop models.**

For those looking for the viability in their office computers, these desktop PCs have also been pre-installed with XP OS for the delivery of highly available, fully redundant IT solutions for added business value. They also come with a special upgrade option from CRT to LCD monitor (silver/black) for a minimum fee.

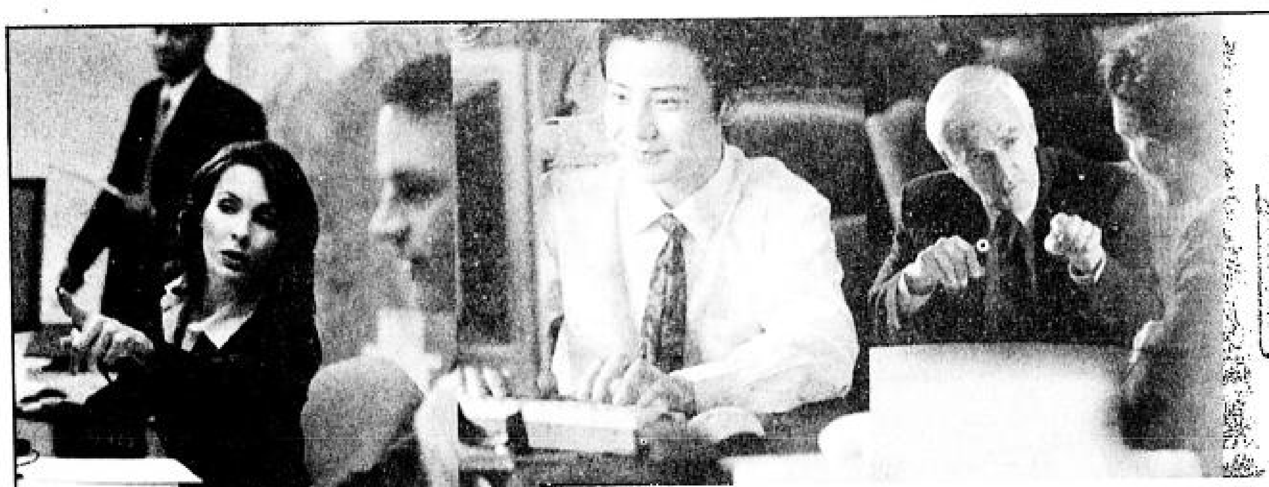
In line with this, Acer offers its high performance desktop --- the **Veriton 7700GX** --- an incomparable performance, branded PC, features the latest Intel® Pentium® 4 with 800 MHz FSB Hyper Threading Technology or Intel® Celeron® with 533 Mhz FSB processors comes with four DIMM slots for maximum upgradability and supporting Dual channel DDR memory. Equipped with on-board PCI-Express x16 VGA slot, users may easily upgrade the graphics for high optimum performance. The operating system runs with Microsoft® Windows® XP Home Edition and/or Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional.

What's more, the **Veriton 7700GX** comes with **Acer Desktop Manager, which comprises of e-Lock, e-Settings and e-Recovery to enforce, Security Manageability and Reliability with Acer LANScope** (powered by Intel® LANDesk Client Manager) and **Acer eRecovery** which protects the user's work by setting restore points, thus minimizing data loss and safe-guarding the system from OS failure and malware. For maximum security, Acer Veriton Desktop secures your company's data with its one-of-a-kind features: USB Security Lock, and Intrusion Alert. For manageability solution, its Personal Setting Migration allows user for easier and faster data transfer.

The **Veriton 7700GX** is Acer's premier commercial desktop PC known for its over-all stability, ease of deployment, and comprehensive management tools. Also, the Acer TAP (Top Access Ports) situates four USB 2.0 ports and the audio jacks on top of the **Veriton 7700GX,** giving supreme convenience.

According to Manuel Wong, General Manager of Acer Philippines, "Acer's vision is committed in empowering people and technology in making powerful, and dependable branded personal computers become more accessible for every business and household.

For more details about the **Acer Veriton 7700GX**, interested parties may call **Acer Hotline at 815-3388** or call **MSI-Digiland Philippines at 688-3333** or visit any **Acer Authorized Retail Partners** conveniently located all over the country. Visit Acer website at **www.acer.com.ph.**



Acer recommends Windows® XP Professional.

Power Your Business Forward

Presenting all the benefits of a stylish desktop with its space-saving system unit. The **Acer Veriton 7700GX** boasts a powerful **Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor** with 800MHz FSB, dual-channel DDR2 533 memory and contains loads of space, including seven drive bays tucked behind a cool charcoal-finish façade. For users who looks for performance, security, manageability, reliability and convenience, the **Acer Veriton 7700GX** is the answer.

Veriton 7700GX

- **Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor 631 with HT Technology** (3.0GHz/2MB L2 Cache/800MHz FSB)
- **Genuine Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional**
- Intel® 915G Chipset
- 512MB DDR2 RAM/80GB HDD SATA
- Intel® GMA 900 (DVMT 3.0) up to 128MB Shared Memory
- Integrated Broadcom® BCM5751 Gigabit Ethernet LAN
- 52x CDROM Drive
- 3.5" 1.44MB FDD
- Acer 15" CRT Monitor/ USB Keyboard & Optical Mouse

SRP : 55,500
3 years warranty on parts and labor

Acer Veriton Desktops. The right tools to empower your business.

Benefits of Owning an Acer Veriton Desktop

- Performance
  - advanced processing with Intel® Hyper-Threading™ Technology
  - ample memory and storage
- Security
  - user-defined recovery points ensures data integrity
  - intrusion lock and alarm for protection of components
  - control over data access via Acer LANScope
  - USBLock prevents unauthorized copying of data to USB storage devices
- Manageability
  - Acer LANScope (powered by Intel® LANDesk® Client Management)
  - enhanced one-touch system recovery with user-defined recovery points
  - exceptional system management
  - easier user profile migration
- Reliability
  - proven technology
  - integrated audio and graphics
  - a fully tested system
- Convenience
  - frontal access ports
  - Acer TAP (Top Access Ports) situates four USB ports and the audio jacks

Boost after sales support for the Acer Veriton Business Desktops with the Acer SuperCare Extended Warranty.
Uplift to a total of 3 years warranty coverage. A small investment for your absolute peace of mind.

Inquire here Service: 564-1841• Product: 815-3388
www.acer.com.ph

acer Empowering People

Authorized Acer Distributor:
MSI-ECS Phils., Inc. Tel. No: 688-3333

Acer Elite Partners:
Advance Solutions 524-7704 • Ayala Systems Technology, Inc. 813-2494
Columbia Technologies 524-0393 • PC Tech 892-1550 • Prince Technologies 729-3757

©2006 Acer,Inc. All rights reserved. Acer is a registered trademark of Acer Inc. Celeron, Celeron Inside, Centrino, Centrino Logo, Core Inside, Intel, Intel Logo, Intel Core, Intel Inside, Intel Inside Logo, Intel SpeedStep, Intel Viiv, Itanium, Itanium Inside, Pentium, Pentium Inside, Xeon and Xeon Inside are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries. Microsoft, Windows and Windows NT are either registered trademarks or trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries. All software bundled with Acer computer systems, including operating systems, are legitimate. "Memory Stick" is a trademark of Sony Corporation. Other product brand names and companies mentioned are trademarks of their respective companies.

BUSINESS

Mindanao posts rise in foreign, domestic tourist arrivals

DAVAO CITY—DESPITE PERCEIVED SECURITY threats in the South, foreign tourist arrivals in Mindanao grew 7 percent to 141,877 last year, the Mindanao Economic Development Council (Medco) said.

Medco said in a paper presented to the media that top foreign visitors came from Japan, the United States, Korea, Malaysia and China.

If domestic tourists were included, arrivals to Mindanao grew 4 percent to 2.16 million last year.

The paper also showed a 2-percentage-point increase in the hotel occupancy rate in the region to 49.14 percent from 47.48 percent in the previous year.

The increase in tourist arrivals last year was partly attributed to the completion of the modernization of the Davao International Airport.

Officials of the Davao International Airport said the expected continued increase in passenger traffic this year and its plan to raise fees and charges on passengers and airlines would enable it to post profit growth of as much as 400 percent this year.

The airport generated P111.19 million in revenue last year.

Michelle V. Remo

MAKE YOUR MONEY GROW!
As high as
12%
interest p.a.
TAX-FREE!
Open a 5-year AMA Bank Time Deposit Now!

☑ Earn as high as 12% interest per year
☑ With monthly payment of interest TAX-FREE
☑ Secure a loan with your deposit as collateral
☑ For only Php 25,000 minimum deposit

Interest rates:
*25T - 99T = 10% p.a.
*100T - 499T = 10.5% p.a.
*500T - 999T = 11% p.a.
*1M - 4.999M = 11.5% p.a.
*5M & up = 12% p.a.

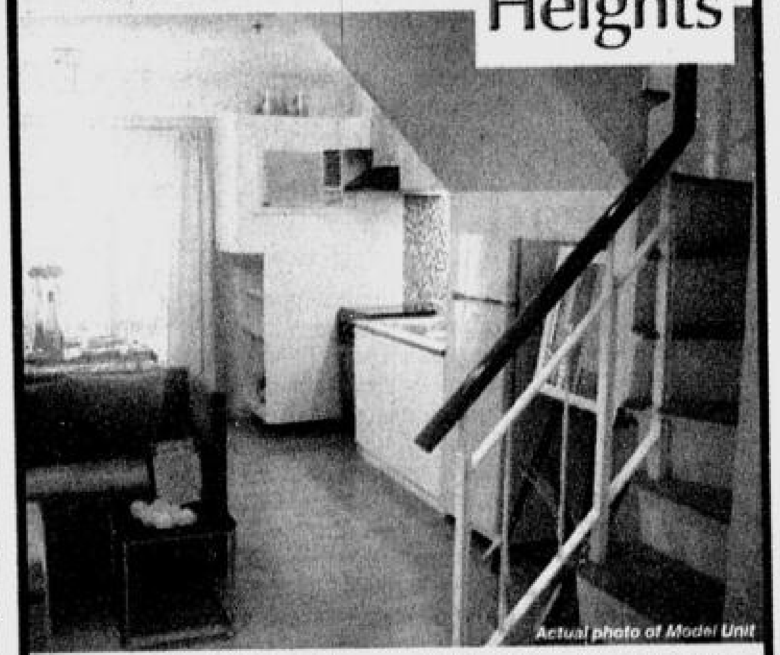
AMA BANK
AMA Rural Bank of Mandaluyong, Inc.

53 Years of Banking Service

HEAD OFFICE Tels: 533-4024 * 533-8244 * 533-4022 * 535-9394 * 535-9391 * 534-7562
BRANCHES Bacoor Tels: 529-8870 * (046) 417-3541, (046) 417-6373, Telefax: (046) 417-3483 * Pasig Tels: 642-6704, 642-6885, Telefax: 643-7133 * Baliuag Tels: (044) 766-7905, Telefax: (044) 673-3214 * San Fernando Tels: (045) 961-6015, (045) 963-1056, (045) 861-2618, Telefax: (045) 961-6014 * Cainta Tels: 655-9068, Telefax: 248-0209 * San Pablo Tels: (049) 562-7796, (049) 562-7756, Telefax: 520-6018 * Calamba Tels: (049) 545-6552, (049) 834-0619, Telefax: (049) 834-1890 * Tayug (Pangasinan) Tels: (075) 572-2454, (075) 572-2031; Telefax: (075) 572-2453 * Morong Tels: 691-6551, 691-5533, 653-0175, Telefax: 653-0170
MEMBER: PDIC. Deposits insured up to ₱250,000 per depositor.

Two Floors are Better than One
@ GATEWAY RESIDENCES
33-Storey Residential Condominium
EDSA corner Pioneer St., Mandaluyong City
Beside Robinsons Place Pioneer Mall

GATEWAY
Garden Heights



1, 2 & 3-BR Bi-Level Units Available
ROBINSONS LAND CORPORATION
636-0888
0922-8380888

BEST DEALS 4 U!

COROLLA ALTIS

This March, you can own the ALTIS and INNOVA with 4 great deals.
To celebrate our 4th year as the country's No. 1 in sales
— for Passenger Cars, Commercial Vehicles and Overall Sales*.

FREE ONE YEAR COMPREHENSIVE INSURANCE for the INNOVA and the ALTIS with any of these special privileges:

GET A TOYOTA VALUE CERTIFICATE WORTH
₱15,000.
Toyota Value Certificates (TVCs) can be used for Toyota Genuine Accessories, Chattel Mortgage, LTO Registration, TFS Financial Package or Discount.

LOW DOWNPAYMENT OF
₱100,000.
Avail of this wonderful package for the Altis or Innova through Toyota Financial Services (TFS).

LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT
For as low as
₱8,834 for the INNOVA and
₱8,353 for the ALTIS (60 months)

TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES
Also avail of hassle-free leasing packages from TFS.

INNOVA
A Beautiful [R]evolution

* CAMPI Results 2005
Promo runs until March 31, 2006. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1203, Series of 2006

www.toyota.com.ph

TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES 858-8500
TOYOTA DEALER NETWORK TOYOTA ALABANG, INC 800-0601 to 32 / 802-1991 TOYOTA BACOLOD CITY, (034) 444-1811 to 13 TOYOTA BAGUIO CITY, (074) 447-0851 / (074) 300 3273 to 74 / (074) 300-4128 / 3825 / (074) 443-6778 TOYOTA BALINTAWAK, INC 366 8901 to 05 / 364 1547 to 50 / 364 4071 to 75 TOYOTA BALINTAWAK-NORTH, 927 7215 / 17 / 30 / 39 / 927 7242 / 44 / 48 / 52 / 927 7251 / 02 / 65 / 927 7268 / 69 TOYOTA BATANGAS CITY, INC (043) 723-7386 / (043) 723-7639 TOYOTA BICUTAN PARANAQUE 777 9500 TOYOTA CABANATUAN CITY, INC., (044) 463 8461 to 87 TOYOTA CAGAYAN DE ORO, INC (08822) 735-770 / 791 / 846 / (088) 858 9994 / (088) 858-7770 / (08822) 737 480 TOYOTA CEBU CITY, INC. (032) 253-1161 TOYOTA CEBU MANDAUE (032) 345 8670 TOYOTA COMMONWEALTH 952-1021 to 27 TOYOTA CUBAO, INC., 911-0651 to 63 TOYOTA DAGUPAN CITY, INC., (075) 517-2026 to 28 / (075) 522 6771 / 6734/ 4773 TOYOTA DASMARIÑAS CAVITE (046) 850 2036 / (046) 850 2929 TOYOTA DAVAO CITY, INC (082) 234 0998 / (082) 234 2994 / (082) 234-8640 TOYOTA ILOILO CITY, INC., (033) 320 6115 to 19 TOYOTA MAKATI, INC., 897-3333 TOYOTA MANILA BAY CORP., 832 3408 to 10 / 832 3432 to 34 / 832 3384 / 832 3437 TOYOTA MARIKINA SERVICE STATION 682 9701 to 03 TOYOTA OTIS, INC., 604-1811 to 20 TOYOTA PASONG TAMO, INC., 893-8084 TOYOTA QUEZON AVENUE, INC., 712-5001 to 06 TOYOTA SAN FERNANDO, (045) 961-1188 TOYOTA SHAW, INC., 532-4132 / 532-8428 / 534-3009 (telefax) TOYOTA SHAW-ORTIGAS. 671 0854 to 64 / 671-0450

TOYOTA
moving forward ▶

MAGBAYAD NG TAMANG BUWIS
bago ang April 17 deadline.
28 DAYS TO GO
Ang Ating Kontribusyon Sa Solusyon

MONDAY,
MARCH 20, 2006
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
B2-1
E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph
BUSINESSMonday
Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

Canon
CALCULATOR
Easy on the Pocket
When it Counts, Count on Canon

Where parents' money will go this June

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

THERE IS A DEBATE in management circles on whether or not a person should pursue an MBA.

Up until the 1980s, a master's degree in business administration was a must-have to go up the corporate ladder.

In the 1990s, the adequacy of an MBA degree to make a CEO adapt to changes in the business environment were doubted. Firms began looking for executives with entrepreneurial skills.

But this debate only affects a small segment of the population.

The concern of the majority has to do with their children's chances of completing their elementary, high school and college education.

The continuous rise of tuition fees for all segments, both public and private, has remained a major financial challenge for today's parents. And this coming school year is not likely to be an exception.

And what happened to the pre-need firms College Assurance Plan and Pacific Plans was no help to parents at all.

INQUIRER's BusinessMonday takes a look at the cost of education in the Philippines. The rates on the table may have changed by the time the article is printed. The final costs may also differ, depending on whether miscellaneous fees—as well as the cost of uniforms and books—are included.

Treat the figures as rough estimates that will guide you when you prepare for the new school year.

Annual tuition in selected schools in Metro Manila (as of SY 2005-2006)

Compiled by PDI Research

PRE-SCHOOL

Manresa School
Parañaque City
Kindergarten:
P37,000 to P38,000

Betty's Bellarmine
Kindergarten School
Makati City
P23,575

Child Learning Center
Makati City
P32,000 -P36,000

Child Star International
Makati City
P120,000 (estimate)

Beacon School
Taguig-Pateros
Source: Website
P 117,000 plus
(tuition and other fees)

San Jose Academy
Malabon
P12,621.05

Jose Rizal University
Mandaluyong
Kinder - P11,560

MSH Sisters School Marikina
Approximately P16,000

ELEMENTARY

Manresa School Parañaque City
Grade V - P44,124.80
Grade III - P 36,228.95

Colegio de San Agustin Makati City
Grade 1 - P61,646.00
Grade 6 - P66,958.00

Colegio de Sta. Rosa Makati City
Grade 1 and Grade 6, P32,846.53
(tuition)

Jose Rizal University
Mandaluyong
Grade 1 - P12,830
Grade 6 - P13,950

Lourdes School of Mandaluyong
P36,419.84

Dominican School Manila
Grade 1 - P24,000 (tuition and other fees)
Grade 6 - P29,000 (tuition and other fees)

MSH Sisters School
Marikina
o About P18,000

San Beda College
Muntinlupa
o Grade 3- P 42,263 (tuition) and P5,140 (miscellaneous)

Dominican College
San Juan
Grade 1 - P20,688 (tuition and all other school fees)
Grade 6 - P22,312 (tuition and all other school fees)

Xavier School San Juan
Grade 1 - P 73,625 (tuition)
Grade 6 - P 64,872 (tuition)

Beacon School
Taguig-Pateros
Kinder to Grade 5 - P153,000 plus
(tuition and other fees)

HIGH SCHOOL

Notredame School
Caloocan City
4th year HS- P52,000 plus
(including books and miscellaneous)

Colegio de San Agustin Makati City
1st year HS - P 74,162
4th year HS - P76,936

Colegio de Sta. RosaMakati City
1st year HS - P34,032.58
4th year HS - P 36,645.65

Jose Rizal University
Mandaluyong
1st Year - P16,500
4th Year - P17,660

Lourdes School of Mandaluyong
P35,047.57

San Beda College
Muntinlupa
3rd year HS - P57,000

Immaculate Heart of Mary School
Parañaque City
1st year HS - P42,795.94
4th year HS - P52,117.70

Manresa School
Parañaque City
1st year HS - P51,000

Dominican College
San Juan
1st year HS - P 26,088
4th year HS - P 29,220

Xavier School
San Juan
1st year HS - 78,164 (tuition)
4th year HS - P 82,740 (tuition)

Beacon School
Taguig-Pateros
Grade 6 to Grade 8 - P165,000 plus (tuition and other fees)

COLLEGE

*SCHOOL COST PER UNIT
ESTIMATED TUITION FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR

AMA Computer University
P760.00 P41,040.00
Ateneo de Manila University
P2,053.40 P73,922.40
Colegio de San Juan de Letran
P711.00 P29,862.00
College of the Holy Spirit, Manila
P903.91 P37,964.22
De La Salle University *P1,762.50
P95,175.00
Far Eastern University P924.00
P38,808.00
FEU - East Asia College *P972.50
P61,267.50
Lyceum of the Philippines P728.00
P29,120.00
Mapua Institute of Technology
P1,292.00 P56,848.00
Miriam College P1,290.00
P54,180.00
Philippine Women's University
P720.00 P64,800.00
Polytechnic University of the Phils.
P12.00 P504.00
San Beda College P900.00
P48,600.00
San Sebastian College P700.00
P42,000.00
St. Paul College of Quezon City
P862.05 P46,550.70
St. Scholastica's College P1,335.60
P64,108.80
Trinity College of Quezon City
P741.00 P31,122.00
University of Asia and the Pacific
*P2,018.00 P108,972.00
University of Santo Tomas P899.20
P37,766.40
University of the East P765.00
P35,190.00
University of the Philippines Diliman
P300.00 P10,800.00

* Average cost per unit charged among the various rates depending on the course

SOURCES: THE SCHOOLS' ACCOUNTING, ADMISSIONS, MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS, REGISTRAR'S AND TREASURERS' OFFICES

The Entrepreneurs School of Asia is an international college with partnership agreements with universities in the US, UK, Australia and China.

Programs:
B.S. Entrepreneurship
B.S. Business Administration with concentrations in Family Business, Creative Enterprise, and Social Entrepreneurship

Tuition costs for Filipino nationals
Average tuition per term P42,000
Duration: 3-year program-trimester

Scholarships:
On Feb. 23, 2006, the Philippine Center for Entrepreneurship (PCE) and the Entrepreneurs School of Asia (ESA) launched the Gen-E Presidential Scholarship on Entrepreneurship. While most scholarships are either based on academic or athletic excellence, Gen-E is focused on the individual's entrepreneurial potential. Ten full-college scholarships and several regional partial scholarships are being offered to 4th year private and public high school students who exemplify the following entrepreneurial traits of creativity, innovativeness, risk-takers, hard-workers, leaders and resourcefulness.

GRADUATE SCHOOL

Adamson University
MBA - P1,500 per unit
Ateneo Graduate School of Business
MBA - P8,000 per subject
Colegio de San Juan de Letran
MBA - P915 per unit
De La Salle University Manila
MBA/Law Program - 14 units
P35,000 plus
Asian Institute of Management
MBA program - $12,000 / year
MM program - $14,000 / year
Grants and scholarships are available.
The AIM Master in Entrepreneurship program is 18 months and tuition is asset based:
Small enterprise P1.5 million
Tuition is: P380,000
Medium enterprise P16- P60 million
Tuition is: P445,000
Large enterprise P61 million- up
Tuition is: P510,000

400 Success Stories from 400 Philippine Entrepreneurs who use Microsoft Dynamics™

To help your business grow, you need full insight into what drives your financial performance. A league of dynamic entrepreneurs attest that the secret to their success is Microsoft Dynamics.

From reducing the time it takes to perform month-end closings, simplifying data entry and accelerating administrative processes, to empowering you to make sound strategic decisions based on fully reliable financial information, Microsoft Dynamics delivers powerful software capabilities and expertise guaranteed to improve your organization's financial performance.

But don't take our word for it. Hear it from the league of dynamic entrepreneurs themselves who have been empowered by Microsoft Dynamics...

Solutions for: Business Intelligence • Financial Management • Project Management and Accounting

Microsoft

Education remains an elusive dream in Luzon

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk
and Vincent Cabreza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

(First of a series)

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—THE MONTH of March brings relief and worry to Edna Manaloto.

Her relief comes from seeing her daughter hurdle the fifth grade. But already, this 46-year-old mother of two is worrying where to get the money for next school year's expenses.

"*Asadsad ke sana* (I hope I could see her through)," she says, finding public elementary education "costly."

In last year's enrollment, she paid P1,200 for tuition, other fees and books. Two pairs of uniform cost P500. Shoes, bag and school supplies cost another P500.

Producing the *baon* (allowance), P30 for food and P20 for transportation, is a daily problem to Manaloto who earns a living by framing photographs.

Those sum up to P1,000 monthly or one-fourth of what she earns. Occasionally, there are school projects worth P60 at most. She shells out less than P10 for test papers.

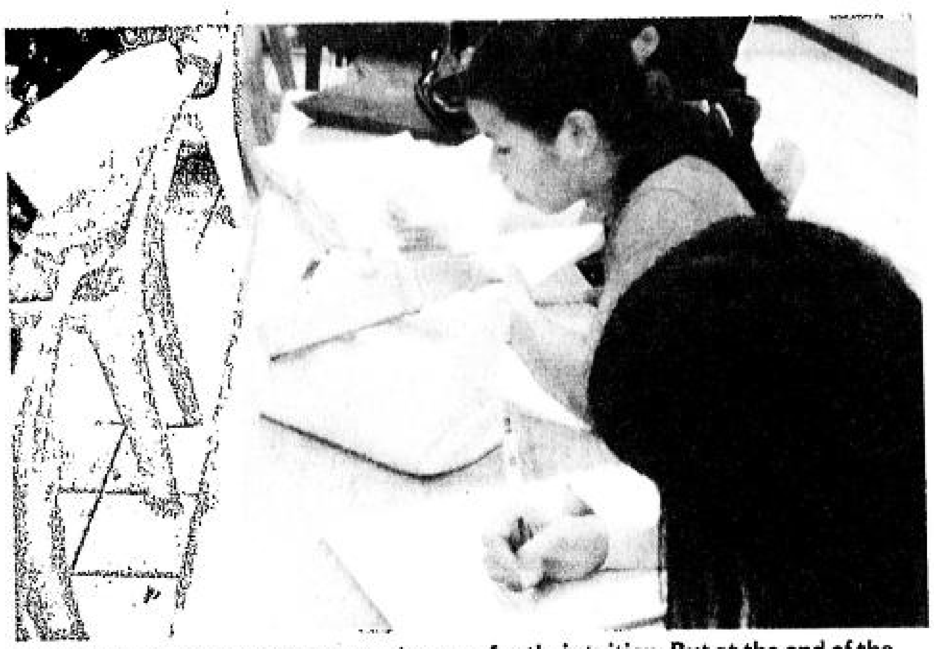
Her goal is to send her daughter to college but the high cost of living, she adds, makes that very uncertain.

That has happened to Manaloto's son Edmar who finished only high school in 2003.

"Most of the time my daily allowance to school was only P10," Edmar says.

In the last three years, he has constantly looked for jobs but got none. His likes had nil chances, he points out.

On Friday, the INQUIRER saw him applying for a job at SM City Pampanga as a stock clerk. The giant retail firm accepts high school graduates. Edmar says he wants the job badly, which pays P260 daily, so he could help his sister finish elementary school and proceed to high school. He has not dropped his plan to enter college and intends to save some money for it.



SOME college students have to work to pay for their tuition. But at the end of the day, there is no more energy left to study. EV ESPIRITU

Disturbing figures

In this Pampanga capital, Mayor Oscar Rodriguez says some figures in the education sector are "disturbing."

Of the more than 74,000 youths in the city in 2005, only 28,288 were in the elementary while 12,378 were in high school. The rest were presumed to be in college or out-of-school.

According to him, the trend in the city has been that only 47 out of 100 students get to complete the sixth grade but many of them fail the entrance examinations for secondary education. Of 100 students who entered high school, only 37 are able to graduate.

The poor performance landed this city's school division 15th in the Department of Education's regional ranking.

Rodriguez has retooled the city's program, making education the top priority in his administration's eight-point agenda. The day care system and health and nutrition programs have been integrated in the education program.

On top of the P100-million loan being obtained from the Land Bank of the Philippines to decongest the classrooms, the city government has also increased the special education fund from real property tax collections from P27.5 million in 2004 to P41.4 million in 2005.

Tough task

"There is no other way to make education accessible to many young people except by helping improve their health and nutrition, increasing the number of teachers, upgrading their salaries, putting in more educational infrastructures and making jobs available to parents," Rodriguez says.

Jeepney driver Ernal Aquino says it is every parent's obligation to give his or her children education. But this, he points out, is a tough task nowadays.

"*Maririndi ku* (It's troubling me)," he says.

His eldest child, now a first year student at a public high school, spends P80 daily for allowance. His youngest, enrolled in fourth grade at a public elementary school here, gets P30. That leaves Aquino with less than P300 to spend for the family's three meals and other expenses.

Enrollment last year saw him forking out P5,000 for the two children, requiring him to spend 18 hours or six hours more than his regular time on the road.

"*Pilitan ku lang apayari, gang gumapang ku king ulad* (I will exert my best to make them reach college, even if I have to crawl on rat-infested grounds)," says Aquino, a single parent.

Because education was unaffordable to her family, Jessmay Peña, 20, dropped out of her computer science course in 2001 while she was just in first year.

While tuition was high enough, at about P300 per unit at the time, books, supplies, transportation and uniform and other school expenses were too much to bear for her single mother.

"Poverty really is a hindrance in getting an education," she says.

She tried sustaining her education by working in a fast food restaurant. At the end of the day, however, she has no more energy left to study.

Out of reach

Data from the Commission on Higher Education (CHEd) indicated that college education is not within the reach of poor families in Central Luzon.

A partial list in 2004 showed that subjects cost from a low of P105 to a high of P750 per unit. A university charged not less than P25,000 per semester.

In 2005, the courses that attract many enrollees were nursing (from 29,240 to 40,620), business education (34,205), teacher education (28,219), engineering (22,491) and information technology (18,495).

At least 147 of 164 universities and colleges in Central Luzon are privately owned. Only 13 are funded and managed by the government.

As of March 10 this year, at least 41 schools have applied for three to 20 percent increase in tuition and other fees.

In the Cordillera

The CHEd and the Department of Education acknowledge that a strong peso and the resulting 7.6 percent inflation rate warrant an increase in fees for schools in the Cordillera.

Nine major colleges have notified CHEd of fee increases that range from 3 percent to 17.85 percent. Saint Louis University in Baguio City is seeking a 17 percent hike and has confronted protests from students who object to various expenses such as a mandatory Internet card that is designed to access the school's electronic library.

The immediate impact will be a reduction in enrolment, says Dr. Raymundo Rovillos, convenor for ethnicity and gender studies at the University of the Philippines Baguio.

But he says the toll will fall on indigenous peoples' (IPs) communities that are striving to access mainstream education to land better jobs.

Rovillos was commissioned by former Education Secretary Edilberto de Jesus to determine the impact of the teaching system on indigenous Filipinos. His study results proved that many schools continued to discriminate IPs, discouraging many from pursuing school.

Indigenous Filipinos from Benguet, Mt. Province, Ifugao, Kalinga, Apayao and Abra represent a quarter of the 15,000 transient students who live in Baguio at the start of school term each year.

The large student population has helped the city earn its reputation as a "university town" in the North, drawing P20 million to P60 million in expansion investments every two years, according to school officials.

Baguio's economy thrives more from the consumption of its transient students than from tourists, city planners say.

In the Cordillera, the National Statistical Coordination Board recorded 185,020 enrollees in elementary schools and 69,628 enrollees at provincial high schools last year.

"[The UP Kasarian gender program] just had a workshop for indigenous women… who again addressed the high dropout rate among elementary school children. Not that there are no schools, but even in barangays, indigenous children find it more and more difficult to cope in school because accepted textbooks and curriculums malign their ethnicity," Rovillos says.

Poverty is still a fundamental deterrent to pursuing education, he says. "They don't have clothes. They don't have anything decent or clean to wear everyday to school."

"They also have to travel far to reach school. The distance makes travel expensive," he adds.

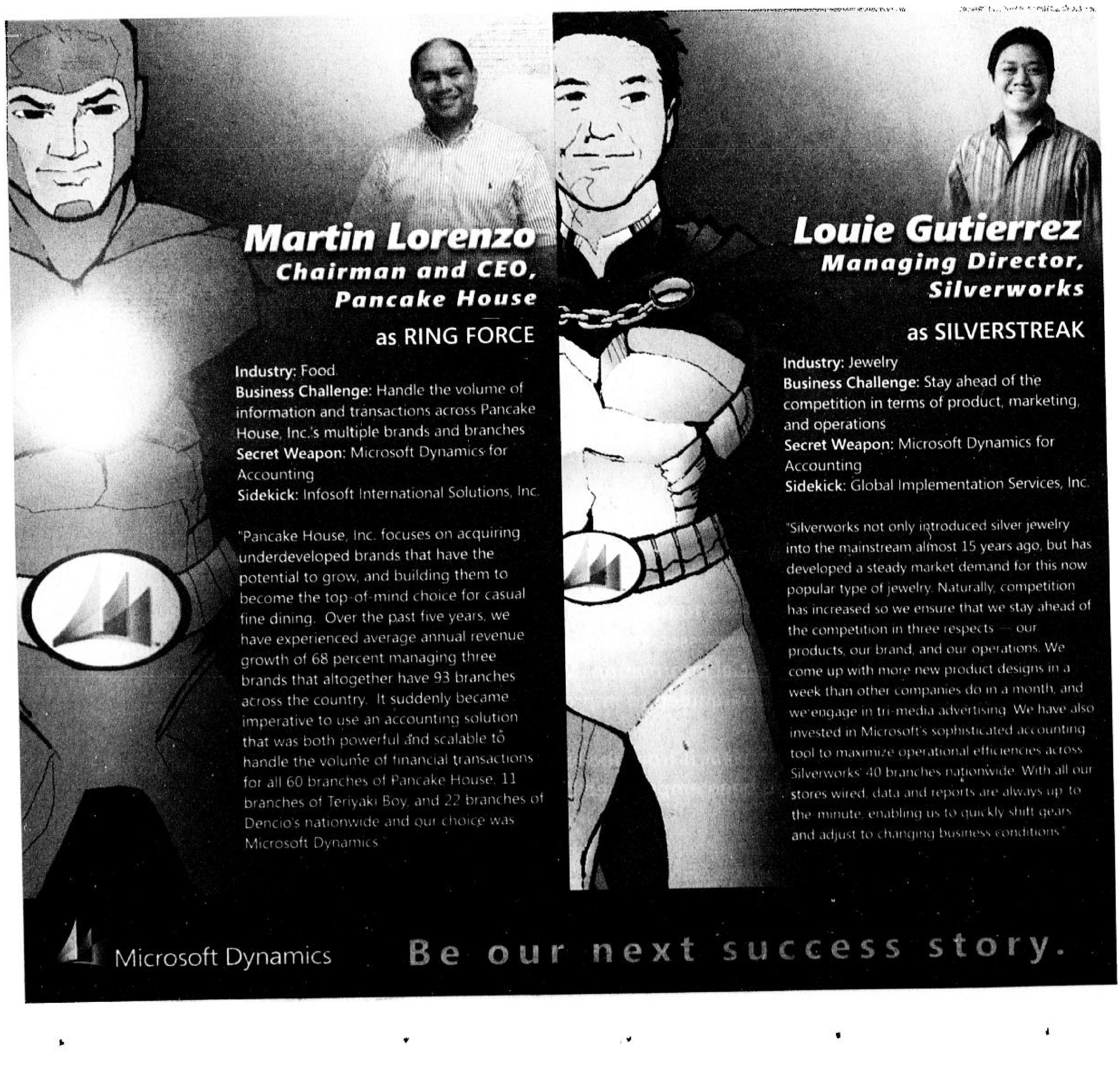
Margarita Jasmin, CHEd Cordillera director, said private educators have started to penetrate the provincial market because of the growth in Baguio City.

Kalinga, which is a 12-hour ride from Baguio, has its own year-old nursing course at the Saint Toni's College.

Jasmin says Baguio's top courses are still nursing, information technology and education because of reports that the United States requires two million overseas Math and science teachers, and the constant demand in Europe for Filipino nurses.

Leon Dacanay, assistant director of the National Economic and Development Authority in the Cordillera, says the regional development council (RDC) has been pushing for a development strategy that defines the region as a center of education in Northern Luzon.

(To be continued.)



Martin Lorenzo
Chairman and CEO, Pancake House
as RING FORCE

Industry: Food
Business Challenge: Handle the volume of information and transactions across Pancake House, Inc.'s multiple brands and branches
Secret Weapon: Microsoft Dynamics for Accounting
Sidekick: Infosoft International Solutions, Inc.

"Pancake House, Inc. focuses on acquiring underdeveloped brands that have the potential to grow, and building them to become the top-of-mind choice for casual fine dining. Over the past five years, we have experienced average annual revenue growth of 68 percent managing three brands that altogether have 93 branches across the country. It suddenly became imperative to use an accounting solution that was both powerful and scalable to handle the volume of financial transactions for all 60 branches of Pancake House, 11 branches of Teriyaki Boy, and 22 branches of Dencio's nationwide and our choice was Microsoft Dynamics."

Louie Gutierrez
Managing Director, Silverworks
as SILVERSTREAK

Industry: Jewelry
Business Challenge: Stay ahead of the competition in terms of product, marketing, and operations
Secret Weapon: Microsoft Dynamics for Accounting
Sidekick: Global Implementation Services, Inc.

"Silverworks not only introduced silver jewelry into the mainstream almost 15 years ago, but has developed a steady market demand for this now popular type of jewelry. Naturally, competition has increased so we ensure that we stay ahead of the competition in three respects — our products, our brand, and our operations. We come up with more new product designs in a week than other companies do in a month, and we engage in tri-media advertising. We have also invested in Microsoft's sophisticated accounting tool to maximize operational efficiencies across Silverworks' 40 branches nationwide. With all our stores wired, data and reports are always up to the minute, enabling us to quickly shift gears and adjust to changing business conditions."

Microsoft Dynamics
Be our next success story.

Strict rules on foundations

Corporate Securities Info

Raul Palabrica

UNTIL TWO YEARS AGO, REGISTERING non-stock, non-profit organizations as foundations was a breeze.

Foundations are non-stock, non-profit corporations that are organized primarily to extend grants or endowments to people in need of financial assistance.

The standard minimum requirement on capitalization for stock corporations was applied to foundations.

Unless something material was omitted in the corporate papers, it didn't take more than a week for a corporation to earn the right to add the word "Foundation" in its corporate name.

That word has a certain ring that adds prestige or stature to the company that bears it. It gives the impression that the organization and people behind it are "missionaries" of sorts who are motivated by a sincere desire to help others.

With that kind of perception, the task of soliciting monetary donations or assistance from potential donors has become easier, especially if they are based in foreign countries with liberal tax laws on charitable gift giving.

Unfortunately, some unscrupulous people have used foundations as vehicles for money laundering, illegal operation and other activities that made a mockery of the objectives for which they were organized.

Bank deposit

Today, the registration of a foundation requires clear proof of capacity to give financial grants or assistance to the proposed subject of the charitable act.

The organizers of the foundation must deposit at least P1 million in a bank as seed money or capital. That amount, which should be covered by a certificate of bank deposit, has to stay in the bank until the registration is completed and the foundation becomes operational.

Although bank certificates enjoy the presumption of validity, the Securities and Exchange Commission, for good measure, verifies their authenticity from their indicated sources.

A bank that is found to have issued a false certificate stands to be blacklisted in the roster of banks whose certificates can be accepted for purposes of corporate registration.

Worse, it shall be reported to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas for investigation and, if warranted, the imposition of appropriate disciplinary action.

And the bank employee responsible for the forged document and the person who included it in the application for registration could face falsification of commercial documents charges.

Provisional

The P1-million requirement is not aimed at dampening the enthusiasm of civic-minded people who want to form a corporation to accomplish some charitable or social objectives.

For a lesser amount, depending on the cost of the planned projects, they can form a non-stock, non-profit corporation for that purpose.

The corporation can do anything that a foundation can do, except put the word "Foundation" in its corporate name.

Even without that label, the corporation may, if its articles of incorporation and by-laws permit it, solicit monetary donations and other forms of material assistance from third parties to help it accomplish its goals.

Later, when the corporation is able to raise the P1 million, it can apply for the amendment of its corporate papers to enable it to enjoy the rights and privileges of a foundation, including the use of the "F" word.

Incidentally, the SEC may reduce the amount of the deposit if there are meritorious reasons to justify the reduction.

It is also essential that the corporation seeking registration as a foundation submit a plan of operation stating the following:

- Its mode of operation,
- Sources of funds,
- Proposed application of those funds, and
- Prospective beneficiaries of its grants or endowments.

Exemptions

The interest in organizing foundations may be attributed in part to the perception that they enjoy certain tax privileges that other corporations cannot avail of.

True, foundations can be exempted from the payment of income tax from revenues earned in their operation and that donations to them by third parties can be excused from the payment of the donor's tax.

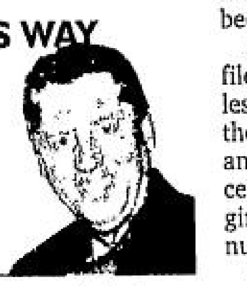
But these tax perks are not automatic, or come as a matter of course upon the issuance of the certificate of registration as a foundation.

They have to be applied for and approved by the Bureau of Internal Revenue. And getting that approval is not easy.

Because taxes are considered the lifeblood of government and therefore tax exemptions are strictly construed against the party claiming it, the applicant-foundation must prove to the satisfaction of the BIR that, based on its track record, it deserves to be treated differently in the payment of taxes. *For feedback, please write to rpalabrica@inquirer.com.ph.*

Personal growth

A LEADER'S WAY



John C. Maxwell

I VIVIDLY REMEMBER A CONVERSATION I had many years ago in 1974, which marked a turning point in my leadership journey.

I was sitting at a Holiday Inn with my friend, Kurt Campmeyer, when he asked me if I had a personal growth plan. I didn't. In fact, I didn't even know you were supposed to have one.

Up until that point, the best term for my growth would be "accidental growth." I didn't grow on purpose, but I loved people and worked hard so that I caught a few things along the way.

That night with Kurt, I realized that to grow like I wanted, my personal development couldn't be hit-and-miss. I needed to initiate and activate. I made a decision to devote myself to personal growth. I literally made personal growth my personal mission.

In my book, The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership, I talk about the Law of Process, which says, "Leaders develop daily, not in a day." Our natural inclination is to overestimate the event and underestimate the process. We wait for a special occasion or an intense experience to boost our growth instead of appreciating the process. In the words of my friend Kevin Myers: "Everyone is looking for a quick fix, but what they really need is fitness."

We don't mature momentarily, but over the long-term. As we continue on our quest to become more skillful as leaders, let's look at seven statements about the growth process.

1. Growth is not automatic. Paul Harvey said it best: "You can tell you're on the road to success; it's uphill all the way." You can't coast uphill. Growth doesn't happen by itself; it requires an active investment of time.

Earl Nightingale said: "If you'll spend one hour a day, every day for five years on a given subject, within five years you'll become an expert on that subject." In 1974, I made that decision—to set aside one hour a day for personal growth.

Over 30 years later, I find that the more I learn and grow, the more precious that hour is to me.

2. Growth is the great separator between those who succeed and those who do not. When I see a person beginning to separate themselves from the pack, it's almost always due to personal growth.

As Bennis & Nanus say: "It is the capacity to develop and improve their skills that distinguishes leaders from followers."

When I went to college, there was no gap between me and my peers, none at all. Since 1974, I have diligently followed through on my commitment to grow an hour every day, and now the gap, in most cases, is wide.

Am I smarter than my former classmates? Not at all. Many of them danced circles around me academically. The growth factor-my long-term commitment to personal development-made the difference.

3. Growth takes time, and only time can reveal certain lessons to us. We've all heard, "Experience is the best teacher," but it never has been and never will be. Evaluated experience is the best teacher. Reflective thinking is required to turn experience into insight.

If you're a young LW subscriber without a wealth of personal experience, borrow the experience. Ask questions, listen and learn from a successful leader that has gone before you.

4. The more we grow, the more we know we need to grow. In other words, when you start developing yourself, instead of feeling wise, you'll be struck by how much you don't know.

Alvin Toffler, in Future Shock, once observed: "The illiterate of the future are not those who cannot read or write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn."

5. Growth equals change. To develop, we must step away from comfort and welcome fresh and challenging experiences. Growth demands a temporary surrender of security. It may mean giving up familiar but limiting patterns, safe but unrewarding work, values no longer believed in, and relationships that have lost their meaning.

6. Growth inside fuels growth outside. The highest reward of our toil is not what we get for it, but what we become by it.

At 17, I decided to read extensively, file my favorite articles, and prepare lessons. Little did I realize that out of the simple discipline of reading, filing and preparing lessons, I would receive content, develop creativity, begin to speak, and eventually author numerous books.

7. Choose to grow in the areas of your strengths, not in the areas of your weakness. There are only four things I do well, just four, and I focus exclusively on them. I lead, communicate, create, and network. That's it.

I spend all of my time on one of those four strength zones. The secret of successful people lies in their ability to discover their strengths and to organize their life so that these strengths can be applied.

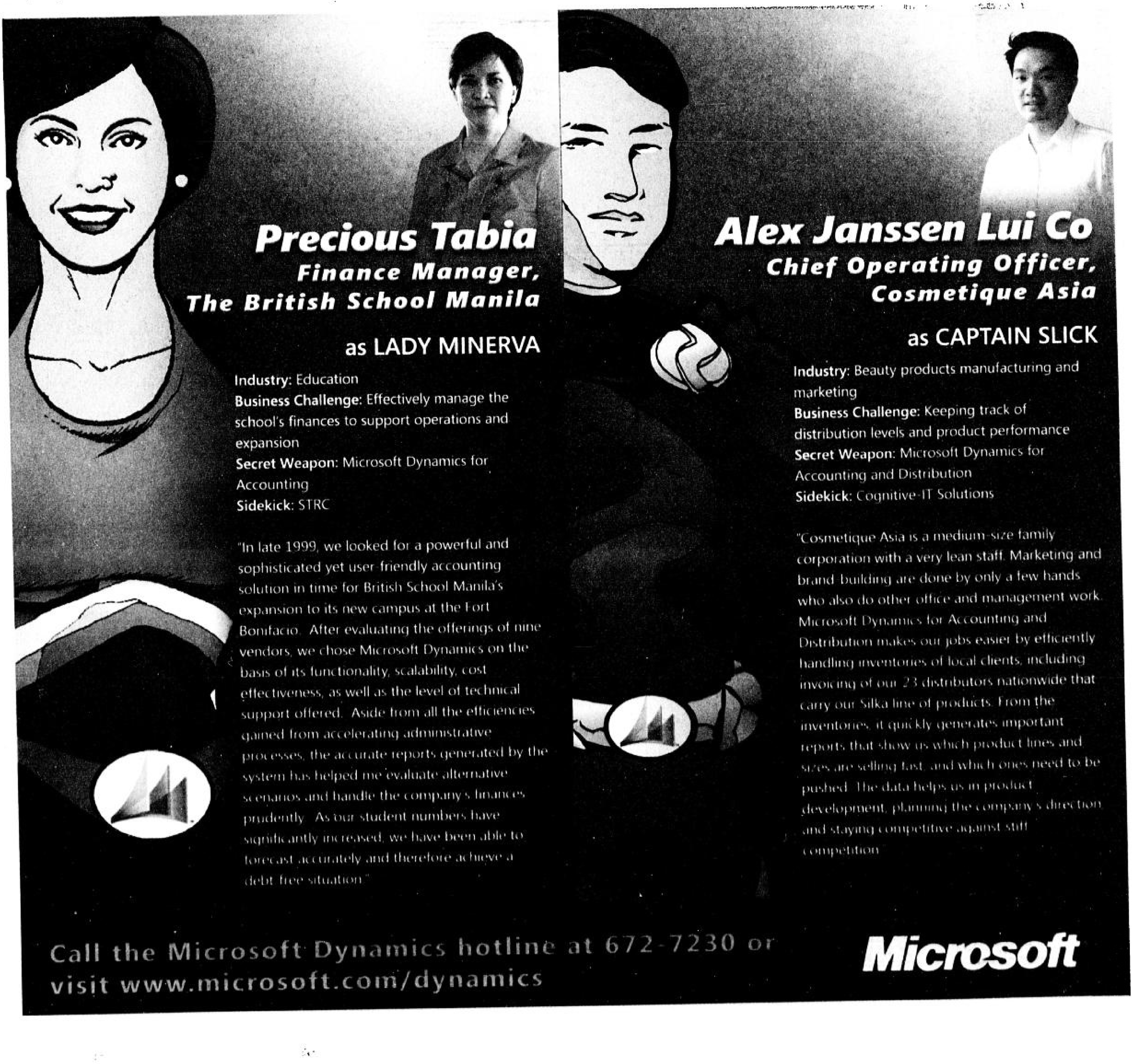
Benjamin Franklin personifies the spirit of inventiveness of the modern world. His accomplishments read like an almanac of greatness: Inventor; poet; philosopher; pamphleteer; distinguished member of three national academies of science; America's first Postmaster General; founder of Philadelphia's first police force, lending library, and the academy later to become the University of Pennsylvania; founder of the first fire insurance company; delegate to the Constitutional Convention; drafter of the Declaration of Independence; one of America's most effective statesmen and ambassadors.

Yet for all of his achievements, the epitaph that Franklin wrote for himself simply reads, "Here lies the body of Ben Franklin, printer."

In honoring his humble roots as a printer's apprentice, Benjamin Franklin reveals the mystery to his greatness.

It was in the world of printing where Franklin was first exposed to new books, writers and ideas. His fame, accomplishments and accolades would never have been possible without the love of learning and habits of growth imprinted in his life during his early days as a printer.

For information on John Maxwell's in-house or public leadership or teamwork workshops, please email us at maxwell@inspire.ph or call 813-2732/03 and ask for Gina. Text MAXWELL ON to 4632 (Smart) to get daily SMS leadership insights from John Maxwell. God bless!



Precious Tabia
Finance Manager,
The British School Manila

as LADY MINERVA

Industry: Education
Business Challenge: Effectively manage the school's finances to support operations and expansion
Secret Weapon: Microsoft Dynamics for Accounting
Sidekick: STRC

"In late 1999, we looked for a powerful and sophisticated yet user-friendly accounting solution in time for British School Manila's expansion to its new campus at the Fort Bonifacio. After evaluating the offerings of nine vendors, we chose Microsoft Dynamics on the basis of its functionality, scalability, cost effectiveness, as well as the level of technical support offered. Aside from all the efficiencies gained from accelerating administrative processes, the accurate reports generated by the system has helped me evaluate alternative scenarios and handle the company's finances prudently. As our student numbers have significantly increased, we have been able to forecast accurately and therefore achieve a debt-free situation."

Alex Janssen Lui Co
Chief Operating Officer,
Cosmetique Asia

as CAPTAIN SLICK

Industry: Beauty products manufacturing and marketing
Business Challenge: Keeping track of distribution levels and product performance
Secret Weapon: Microsoft Dynamics for Accounting and Distribution
Sidekick: Cognitive-IT Solutions

"Cosmetique Asia is a medium-size family corporation with a very lean staff. Marketing and brand-building are done by only a few hands who also do other office and management work. Microsoft Dynamics for Accounting and Distribution makes our jobs easier by efficiently handling inventories of local clients, including invoicing of our 23 distributors nationwide that carry our Silka line of products. From the inventories, it quickly generates important reports that show us which product lines and sizes are selling fast, and which ones need to be pushed. The data helps us in product development, planning the company's direction and staying competitive against stiff competition."

Call the Microsoft Dynamics hotline at 672-7230 or visit www.microsoft.com/dynamics

Microsoft

Why you can't Miss This Event*

Fantastically Fresh Ideas!

IABC/PHILIPPINES
International Association of Business Communicators

invites you to the

Asia Pacific
Communication
Conference
2006

March 30 & 31, 2006
at the Greenbelt 3 Cinemas
Ayala Center, Makati City

*Two full days, 20 speakers, 2 lunches & 4 snacks, handouts, all at Greenbelt 3: it's a steal at P5,000!

Some of our Speakers

Warren Bickford
IABC Chairman

Bish Mukherjee
Director, IABC Asia PacificRegion

Bill Crane
Former Chevron
Executive Speechwriter

Butch Jimenez
SVP-Retail Business Group
PLDT

Alan Ortiz
President &CEO
National Transmission Corp.

Benjamin Philip Romualdez
President, Philippine Chamber of the Mining Industry

Ping de Jesus
President & CEO
Manila North Tollways Corp.

Hon. Jesse Robredo
Mayor, Naga City

Jesus Manibis
Director for Corporate Communication-Maynilad

Marites D. Vitug
Editor-Newsbreak

Marvin Tort
Business Management Consultant

Tita Puangco
President &CEO
Ancilla Enterprise
Development Consulting

Some of our Topics

Plenary Sessions

- IABC Chair Speaks: Global Perspectives
- PR Opportunities Across Asia
- Naga: Communication in Transforming a City
- A PR Board and Licensing Practitioners
- Media and Big Business
- The 'Envelope' Please
- PR Agencies: Demand Outpaces Supply
- Measuring Communication ROI
- CEO Speeches: Writing and Delivery Technics
- Improving RP's Bad Image Overseas
- Communicating a Major Infrastructure
- Ground-breaking Business Ideas
- More Bang for the Buck: Cost-effective PR Programs
- Overturning Myths About Mining and Gaming
- Cinema as Vehicle for Nationalism

Advanced Training Workshops

- When Corporate Reputation Hangs in the Balance
- Cross-cultural Communication
- Behavior Change Communication
- Presenting Like a Pro
- Scripts that Sizzle
- Making Sense of Financial Statements
- Writing for Print and TV
- Corporate English
- Y Johnny Can't Rite

CALL THE SECRETARIAT NOW, 750-5887, 751-3205 OR 810-1831 LOC. 123

Sponsors
SAN MIGUEL CORPORATION
MIRANT
PAGCOR

Patron
MERALCO
CALTEX
Unilever
TransCo
HSBC

Media Partners
BusinessWorld
YOUR BUSINESS CONSULTANT
GMA
INQUIRER

Official Auditors
Isla Lipana & Co.

BUSINESSMonday

MAP stand on the Mining Act of 1995

MAPPING THE FUTURE

OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS, WE HAVE been reading reports that two mining companies, Lafayette Mining in Rapu-Rapu, Albay and Heritage Resources and Mining Corp. in Homonhon Island, Guiuan, Eastern Samar are being petitioned for closure by the local community leaders because of their role in destroying the environment and displacing communities.

Complaints similar to these have been greeting the Philippine Mining Act of 1995 from the time it was passed 10 years ago. While the constitutionality of the law was assailed before the Supreme Court in 1997, the high court subsequently ruled that the law was constitutional.

The Supreme Court decision was hailed by the local and international business community, as a boon to the economy, a boost to job creation particularly in the rural areas where it is most needed, a magnet for much-needed foreign direct investments, and a boon to the local capital market.

The ruling of its legality was expected to open the floodgates of development and help alleviate the country's fiscal problems.

Those opposed to the Mining Act mainly argue that many times in the past, the mining industry had degraded the environment, deprived communities of their traditional means of livelihood and irreparably ruined their culture.

Those opposed also say that allowing full foreign equity in mining ventures, in effect, surrenders the country's sovereignty to non-Filipinos.

While the Management Association of the Philippines acknowledges these valid concerns, the very significant economic and other benefits from the development of the mining sector should be the paramount consideration of a country plagued by poverty and large fiscal deficits.

Instead of limiting the activities of the mining sector, the government should encourage its development, while taking firm and forceful steps to prevent the regulatory shortcomings and accidents of the past.

The Mining Act already has sufficiently clear provisions to protect the environment, control pollution, rehabilitate and improve mined-out areas, and protect the rights of mining communities.

The problem is not the law as the law has anticipated and cured the previous negative effects of mining, but the government agencies' inability to strictly and religiously enforce these provisions and institute sanctions for non-compliance or violations of the regulations.

By lifting barriers to the development and extraction of the country's mineral resources, and allowing foreign equity capital to participate, this law contributes in a major way to economic development by creating jobs, alleviating poverty, and reducing the country's trade and fiscal deficits.

The MAP, therefore, urges the private sector to support this law and assist the government in its proper and strict implementation.

The MAP, with its commitment to the theme "Call To Action: Country Above Self," is prepared to take the lead in organizing the private sector in assisting the government to properly and effectively implement the Mining Act as a patriotic duty.

It is not the MAP's intent to create and fund a body to "police and regulate" which is the mandated role of government but, the MAP, with its depth of management expertise can be a potent force in mobilizing other non-profit business organizations in providing a forum where mining issues can be discussed with all interested parties (to include mining companies, the local government, the affected communities and the church) and together arrive at solutions to specific mining issues for the optimum benefit of the Filipino people.

In addition, the MAP through its committed members, offers to assist the LGUs and affected communities in developing the monitoring and reporting mechanism for policing compliance of mining companies to their social, economic and environmental commitments under the law so that the benefits from mining can be enjoyed without the ill-effects of negligence, incompetence and apathy.

(This is the official statement of the Management Association of the Philippines on the Philippine Mining Act of 1995. The MAP secretariat may be reached via mapsec@globenet.com.ph)

HOMEPLUS HOMEPLUS HOMEPLUS HOMEPLUS HOMEPLUS HOMEPLUS

only 9.75% p.a.
CHINABANK HOMEPLUS REAL ESTATE LOAN

NOW MORE AFFORDABLE AT 9.75%* p.a.

TAKE HOME

CHINABANK
HOMEPLUS
REAL ESTATE LOAN
Call 885.5555

For more inquiries, please call or visit any of our China Bank branches or e-mail us at homeplus@chinabank.ph

FIXED INTEREST RATES*

1st year only	9.75% p.a.	3 years	11.25% p.a.
2 years	10.50% p.a.	4 & 5 years	11.50% p.a.

* Rates are valid for applications received from February 16 to April 30, 2006 only.

See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1021..Series of 2006

BancNet
PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION
Deposits insured up to P250,000 per depositor

CHINABANK
www.chinabank.ph
Since 1920

Your success is our business

'KIKAY' artists /C2

LifeStyle
Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso Subsection Editor Lito B. Zulueta
Text us your feedback: inquirer life name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) E-mail: lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Funsize!
6 cups of 12oz.
Coca-Cola
P42
P10 each

Iloilo, heritage champion

PRIDE OF PLACE

Augusto F. Villalon

ILOILO EVOKES MANY PLEASANT images, each one as soothing as its melodious language whose lilt perfectly sums up the local lifestyle and culture: laid-back Southern gentility graciously lived in a city on the banks of a river whose languorous flow sets the peaceful tone of the residents' pulse.

There is no other city in the Philippines with an image as distinct as Iloilo.

Once the center of the Visayan sugar industry, the city retains vestiges of that era. Muelle Loney, the city dock, commemorates Nicholas Loney, the Englishman who industrialized the sugar industry in the 19th century, exported sugar globally from Iloilo, and brought prosperity to the province.

There was another side to the entrepreneurial Loney who flooded the Iloilo market with cheap, machine-woven textiles imported from England, a move killing the flourishing Ilonggo hand-loom industry which was the source of the best hand-woven fabric in the Philippines.

Nevertheless, the face Iloilo presents today is still sugar-sweet. Elegant arcaded colonnades dating back to the Commonwealth era still shade city-center sidewalks, an urban amenity now vanished from other Philippine city centers in the name of development.

The Commonwealth-era buildings of Iloilo face extinction. The new malls have taken away retail activity from the old city center. There are plans to reuse the old downtown buildings to produce a heritage-destination setting that attracts the public and tourists away from the malls, a plan seen to revive the old city center and return luster to the city's tarnished pride of place.

Iloilo ilustrados

Descendants of illustrious Iloilo families continue to live in their stately homes that stand sometimes alone, at other times behind rows of commercial developments, on city streets that retain shabby remnants of its former grandeur.

Progress has swept away sidewalks, trees, and the small plazas that once made the city more livable than it is today.

Nevertheless, the city presents a wide range of architecture. Houses range from pre-20th century *bahay na bato* of the Spanish colonial era.

In Iloilo, the houses take on a Visayan character. They are more open and embellished than their Tagalog relatives. Superb mansions from the American colonial era, built in the 1920s in an eclectic style typical to Iloilo, remain.

Probably one of the best-preserved 1930s Art Deco houses in the country is aptly called Boat House, a reference to its flowing, streamlined lines recalling sleek ocean liners considered the height of modernity during that era, causing that particular variant of the Art Deco style to be called Moderne.

Iloilo unfolds on different levels. Some mansions struggle for existence side by side with unregulated commercial development on city streets. Fast-food stores in malls fail to capture faithful customers who still insist on going to the market, not a restaurant, for an authentic *batchoy* fix.

Ilonggo culture tempers 21st-century mass media and Internet culture with Visayan tradition, creating an interesting mix of cutting-edge technology and the old.

With its feet firmly planted on tradition is the Panaderia de Molo, an Iloilo icon deserving to be a national treasure. Its trademark striped tins of handmade cookies are prized gifts to any Filipino. Its bakery products are coveted Pinoy comfort food that maintain the old taste and texture no longer found in mass-manufactured products from commercial bakeries.

Established by the Jason sisters, ownership has passed to their Sanson great-granddaughters, the fourth generation of the family to manage the bakery. This generation zealously maintains original family recipes, still kneads and mixes by hand, uses traditional wooden and bamboo implements, and bakes in clay ovens fired by wood especially grown in the family's plantation.

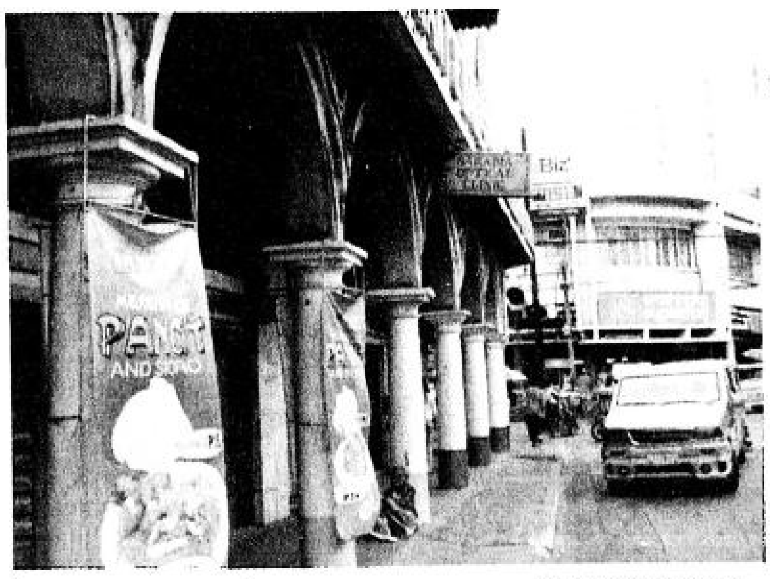
Conservation body

Bent on preserving heritage, the Iloilo City Cultural Heritage and Conservation Council (ICCHCC) actively takes a hand in guiding the city to attaining a balance between tradition and the 21st century.

Enjoying support from City Mayor Jerry Treñas, who understands that the identity of Iloilo lies in its culture, well-connected ICCHCC board members are Iloilo movers involved in city government, civic organizations, mass media, business, professional and academic circles.

The ICCHCC is among the few organizations in the Philippines that have greatly increased heritage awareness. The organization successfully held a heritage awards program in 2005 that awarded the winners of a student essay competition and presented awards recognizing the best conservation and adaptive reuse of heritage architecture in the city.

Among its awardees were ancestral homes reused as schools, religious convents or restaurants, proof that heritage structures can be used for contemporary needs.

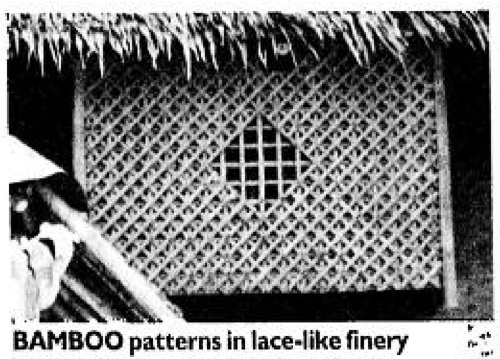


ENDANGERED are the colonnaded sidewalks of downtown Iloilo, which need revival to counteract the flow of retail activity sucked away by newly constructed malls.

In May, the ICCHCC goes into full gear. Iloilo hosts the national culminating activity for Philippine Heritage Month on May 30-31 this year.

For the entire month of May the tireless ICCHCC presents a series of activities celebrating heritage. A Flores de Mayo, exhibits of traditional culture, musical performances, lectures, and dance performances will be held in different venues all over the city.

The closing ceremonies in Iloilo City will be the highlight of the month-long celebration and focus on Panay cultural heritage, specifically Iloilo. During the two days, activities and events will include walking tours, park concerts, cultural performances, religious rites, and ceremonial receptions.



BAMBOO patterns in lace-like finery hallmark the Ilonggo variant of the traditional *bahay kubo*.

A good place to start an Iloilo visit would be at Museo Iloilo, whose exhibits introduce what the city is all about and whose director, Zaffy Ledesma, has an inside track on local history.

Walk next door from the Museo to the Department of Tourism Office (tel. 033-3375411) for detailed information on all cultural and tourism events sponsored either by the ICCHCC or the DOT which share an office in Iloilo City.

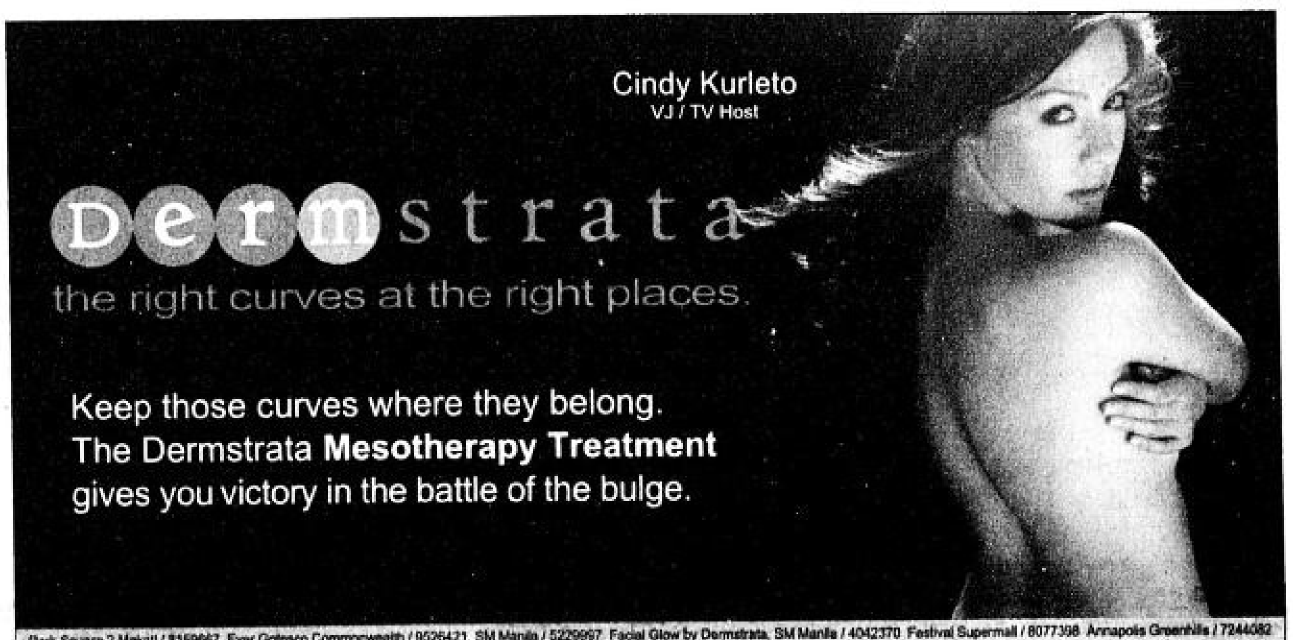
Feedback is welcome at afvillalon@hotmail.com

GRAND summer TOURS of 2006
Mar.24-26 BANAUE Rice Terraces TOUR w/Sagada
(feel the cool fresh air of Ifugao & Mountain Province)
April 7-9 BOHOL TOUR via Cebu
April 13-16 HOLYWEEK Ilocos Region Tour
(14 miraculous & historical churches, Pagudpud beach)
April 21-23 BICOL TOUR w/ whale watching
We arrange GROUP/FAMILY exclusive tour, LAKBAY ARAL,
Tourist Bus Hire, PILGRIMAGE.
Other places: EL NIDO, BATANES ISLAND, CORON ISLANDS, or Underground River Cave.
For inquiries call: ENGRANDE TRAVEL
Buenavista Bldg., Quirino Avenue, Parañaque City
TEL.: 851-0361, 851-1549, Cel 0921-9796165

Brig's Summer Programs
MANDARIN / FOOKIEN
Enroll Now!!
Classes Start
April 3
CALL
727-39-10
727-39-12
ALOHA MATH PINYIN BASIC DRAWING
MATH DYNAMIX ENGLISH PROFICIENCY CARLA CRAFTS
PLAY W/ MATH ADV. ACADEMICS SCRAP BOOKING
COMPUTER ENTRANCE TEST REV. PAINTING

First Pinnacle
TRADING CORPORATION
SHOWROOMS
4/L, bes. Gameworz, Festival Supermall, Filinvest, Alabang
Tel/Fax.: (02) 771-0857
TC-329, 3/L, Market Market Mall, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig
Tels.: (02) 729-5093 • 889-7166
3/F, 60 C.B.T. Condominium, West Avenue, Quezon City
Tels.: (02) 3739797 • 4165218 - 19
E-mail: sales@firstpinnacle.com.ph • Fax: +63 2 373-4750
website: http://www.firstpinnacle.com.ph

WHAT'S ON AT ROBINSONS
Jam with their cool hits in a mini concert as they promote their latest album under Universal Records.
Orange & Lemons
a world to discover
Robinsons Malls
www.robinsonsmalls.com

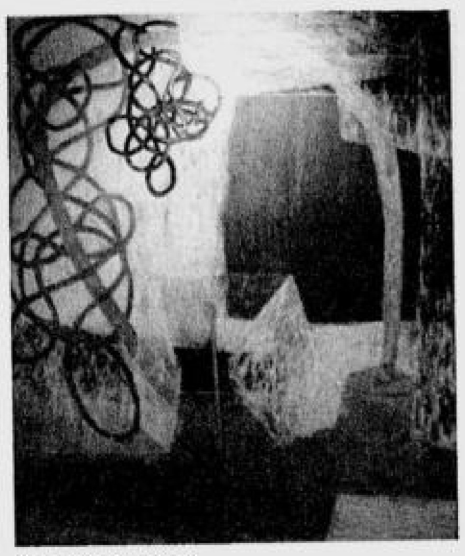


Cindy Kurleto
VJ / TV Host
Dermstrata
the right curves at the right places.
Keep those curves where they belong.
The Dermstrata **Mesotherapy Treatment** gives you victory in the battle of the bulge.
Park Square 2 Makati / 8159667 Ever Gotesco Commonwealth / 9526421 SM Manila / 5229997 Facial Glow by Dermstrata, SM Manila / 4042370 Festival Supermall / 8077358 Annapolis Greenhills / 7244082 Isetann Recto / 7363781 Market! Market! Global City / 7582203 Novaliches Shopping Mall / 9399018 Robinsons' Fairview / 9389667 SM Bacoor / (046) 4173050 SM Cagayan de Oro / (088) 8591167 SM Dasmarinas / (046) 4323043 SM Marilao / (044) 2366045 SM Pampanga / (045) 9616982 SM Southmall / 8004319 SM Centerpoint / 7153988 Sta. Lucia East / 6818491 SM Bicutan / 8240264 SM Fairview / 9377710 SM San Lazaro / 7062437 SM North Edsa / 9289554 SM Valenzuela / 2921939 SM Sta. Rosa / (049) 5344659 SM Lucena Soon to Open : Mall of Asia

Baradong ilong nakakaiyak, baka allergic sa halimuyak.
Cetirizine
Zyrtec®
Doctor recommended
Quick and safe relief for allergies
Zyrtec is doctor recommended to treat allergies. Just one dose gives 24-hour, no-drowse relief.
Lots of allergies. Just one Zyrtec.
UCB Philippines, Inc.
If symptoms persist, consult your doctor. Available in mercury drug and leading drugstores.

Rock Drilon's personal unravelings

By Lisa Ito
Contributor



"ORANGE Line"

AS A VISUAL FORM AND METAphor, the line references energy, the flow of life and the progression of events. In Rock Drilon's recent paintings, the line and its undulations into loops, circles and masses signify a journey toward the unraveling of self.

A tracing of the lines in Drilon's works rendered in acrylic on canvas in the show "Recent Paintings" reveals a progression that, if interpreted in the light of psychological analysis, charts the unwinding and journeying of forms, perhaps the artist's unintended symbol for his internal sojourns, across an expanse of space.

"Selective Memory" is a diptych relaying Drilon's personal attempt to decipher self and lay down visual references for assessing the events of his personal life. As the title implies, the artist does not engage in a strictly chronological accounting of everything that has happened since birth, but, rather, systematically filters recollections of events that have shaped, strengthened, or scarred him through the decades.

This particular painting is Drilon's visual translation of biography-psychology, a healing technique used to draw out recurring and unresolved experiences—motifs of conflict, so to speak. But instead of recollecting the past through words, Drilon uses visual references to situate deep personal musings into context, in order to see how they fit into the entire puzzle of life.

After scribbling cathartic passages on canvas, the artist obscures the text with abstract forms, covering the entire work with personal symbols.

Drilon's attempt to chart the personal may be gleaned from the main motifs of the work, which include numbers arranged beside parallel lines or planes, similar to the lines of a writing pad or the unfolding expanse of a staircase.

The undulating and sequential flow of numerals from one to 50 marks the artist's attempts at accounting for the passage of his personal life. The numbers subtly shift in hue as the numerical progression increases: from bright orange at the very start, to red, maroon, violet, blue, turquoise, and gold.

The color shifts are likewise signifiers of how the artist views each respective phase. Other forms in the work are open-ended and recurring loops treading the expanse of space.

The way the lines of Drilon's paintings entangle in circular journeys speak of internal contradictions. The way the artist's forms loop in a sweeping, all-encompassing way in the work "Selective Memory," for instance, is far different from the way they all converge in other paintings in the show, such as the series titled "Untitled" 1-3.

According to the artist, these were among a series of paintings produced in Brooklyn, New York, where he stayed for a brief hiatus last year.

Situated inconspicuously at the periphery of the gallery's wall, the small-scale paintings are variations on a single image: a continuous line looped up and bunching into a single entanglement.

The tangled and winding forms in dismal hues point to literal allusions beneath the mass of convolutions. This motif is repeated in the exposed sketch lines beneath the forms, jutting out like thorns piercing the pale rose backgrounds of the works.

Peripheral

The rest of the paintings in the show demonstrate the artist's cognizance of the peripheral.

"Orange Line" derives its title from a sliver of tangerine in a sea of turquoise and milkish white filling the canvas.

"Yellow Line" is a diptych which derives its title from, in a plane predominantly filled with black, gray and blue forms, a deliberate canary line that seemingly passes off as a random or an insignificant part of the complex painting.

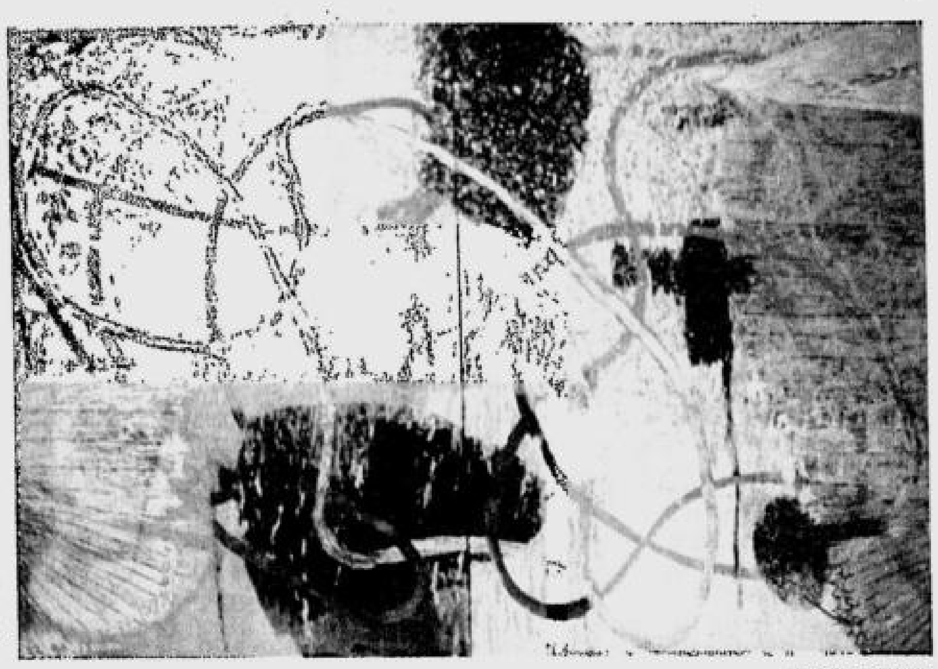
"Red Line," similarly, reinforces the veiled irony between the title's text and the images painted on canvas. The literal referent of this work's title, too, is similarly situated at the very periphery of the painting: a gaunt, vertical scarlet slash lost in a galaxy of floating and expansive forms, like a lacerated wound on the verge of bleeding.

These works, taken as a whole, are subtle reminders of formal and personal contradictions. The metaphors in "Recent Paintings," however, are deeply and intimately personal ones that may not be readily evident to viewers unacquainted with the artist.

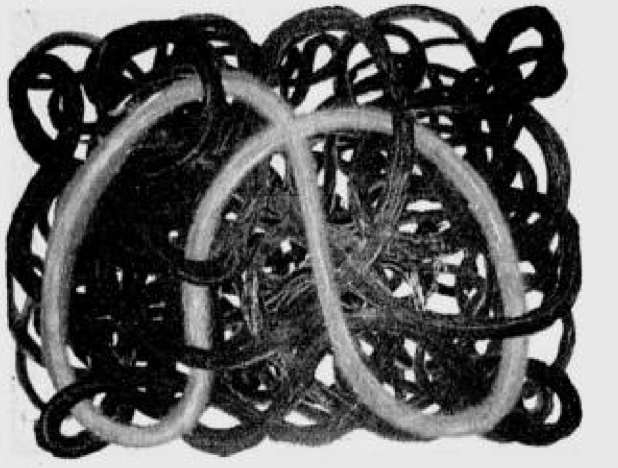
The veneer of detachment is likewise reinforced by the straightforward and seemingly impersonal title of the show and the simple titles of the works.

The show, after all the scrutiny, is an affirmation of how abstraction articulates the personal. It demonstrates how either the studied or spontaneous composition of forms creates concrete images of the inchoate and complex mass of subjectivities brimming beneath skin.

Rock Drilon's "Recent Paintings" is on view at Mag:net Gallery Katipunan until March 31. Call 9293191 or e-mail magnetcafekatips@yahoo.com.ph



"SELECTIVE Memory"



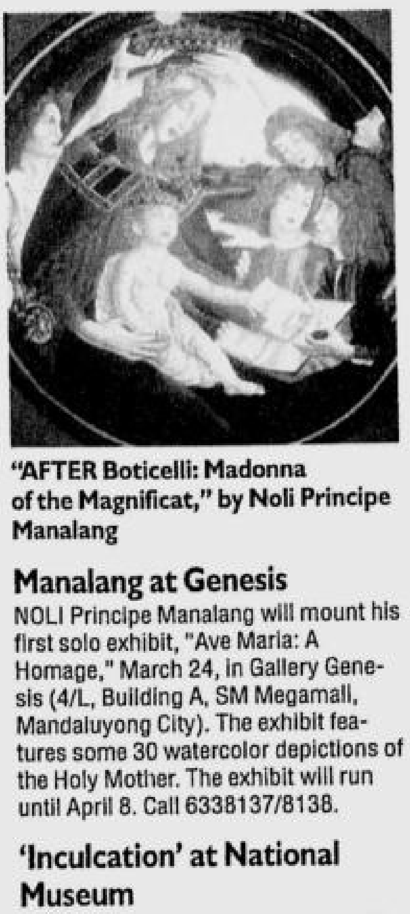
"UNTITLED"

VISUAL ARTS

BY PANDY Aviado

Aviado, Paras, Rubio at Avellana

OPENING today in Avellana Art Gallery (A-19, 2680 F.B. Harrison St., Pasay City, fronting Gideon Academy; tel. 8338357) are three simultaneous exhibits. Pandy Aviado's "Homage to Benzaiten (Deity of the Artist)" features large-scale tapestries and works in acrylic on canvas that celebrate the purity of form. Lynyrd Arwyn Paras' "My Heart, My Plans and the Lady Who Killed My Daughter and Son" is mainly composed of portraits in oil on board and canvas that exhibit the rifts and bonds in family allegiances. And Ryan Rubio's "Melancholy of Unexpected Places" showcases an acrylic suite of haunting, ghost-like figures trapped in a derelict world.



"AFTER Boticelli: Madonna of the Magnificat," by Noli Principe Manalang

Manalang at Genesis

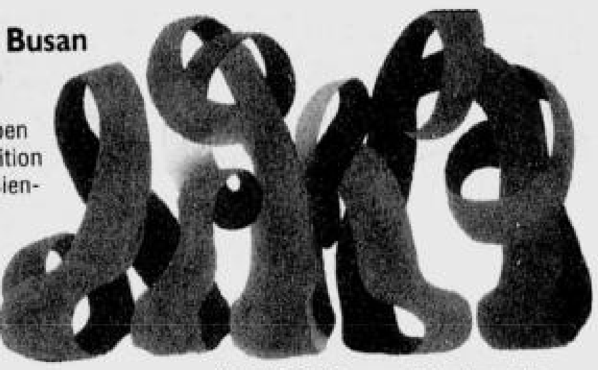
NOLI Principe Manalang will mount his first solo exhibit, "Ave Maria: A Homage," March 24, in Gallery Genesis (4/L, Building A, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City). The exhibit features some 30 watercolor depictions of the Holy Mother. The exhibit will run until April 8. Call 6338137/8138.

'Inculcation' at National Museum

THE NATIONAL Museum is showing "Inculcation: Museum as Nation," the final leg in a series of exhibitions to prepare for the opening of the National Art Gallery. Museum director Cora Alvina will host a reception on March 22, 6 p.m. The exhibit, which runs until May 31, can be viewed on the 4/F, Museum of the Filipino People at the Teodoro Valencia Circle (formerly Agrifina), Wednesday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Call 5271215, 5243005 and 5270278.

Palencia wins in Busan

JPALENCIA has been chosen one of six prizewinners in an open international competition for the 2006 Busan Biennale Sea Art Festival, which will open on Sept. 17 and runs until November in Busan, Korea. His prize-winning entry, "Ocean Dragon," figures prominently in the Biennale's theme of "Public Art," curated by Ryu Byoung Hak, and will be installed on the promenade along Heaundae Beach in Busan in July. Other winners are Subodh Kerkar of India, Alina and Jeff Bliumis of the US, Tetsuo Yamafuji of Japan and Art Family of Korea.



"OCEAN Dragon," by Joaquin Palencia

Art Discovery exhibit

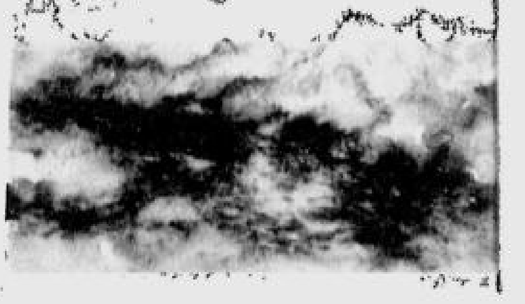
THE ART Discovery and Learning Foundation Inc. will hold a group exhibit of small works on flowers, March 20-31, at the Blooms and Foliage Inspirations, 123-A Scout Gandia cor. Scout Torillo, QC. Participating artists include Judy Lim, Dr. Lorenza Calpotura, Roger Chavez, Serena Borras, Isabelita Maderazo, Jose Dinglasan, Ben Infante, Gaudencio Romion Jr. and Fernando B. Seña.

Women artists at Liongoren

EIGHT Filipino women artists come together in Liongoren Gallery's annual "8 Filipina," an invitational art exhibit in commemoration of Women's Month. The show will feature oil paintings, photography, installation art and digital arts by Isabel Aquilizan, Cynthia Alexander, Ligaya Fernando-Amilbangsa, Hannah Liongoren, Isa Lorenzo, Lea Padilla, Teena Saulo and Rollie Yusi. The show opens on March 24 and runs until April 16 in Liongoren Gallery, 111 New York, Cubao, QC, and on April 17-23 at Galerie Y in SM Megamall.

Cordero at West

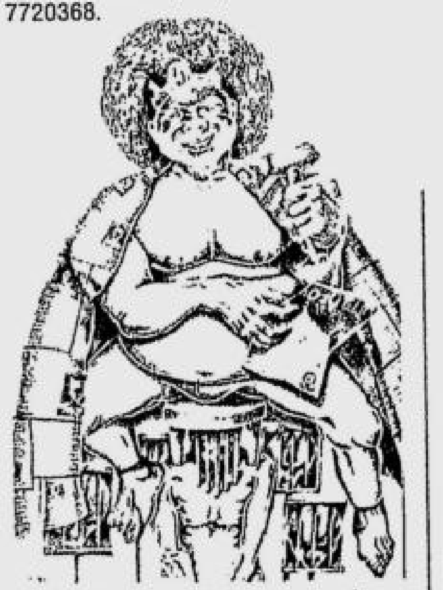
LOUIE CORDERO presents his latest one-man exhibit, "Bad Taste," March 21-April 8 in West Gallery, 48 West Ave., QC. The exhibit features familiar icons in visceral situations. It attempts to convey the artist's thought through visual juxtapositions. Call 4110336.



"UNTITLED," watercolor on Fabriano paper, by Leon Pacunayen

3 solos at Nineveh

NINEVEH Artspace presents three solo shows: "Batang Kalye," by Oville D.R. Tiamson of Angono, Rizal; "Musmos," by Bernard Vista of Pakil, Laguna; and "MeLaKaw," by Rey Bollozos of Toril, Davao City. The exhibits run until April 9 in Nineveh Artspace, 2452, 1st Ave., Villa Silangan, Sta. Cruz, Laguna. Call (049) 8086617/ (049) 8106315/ 0916-7720368.



"HARI," pen and ink on paper, by Rey Bollozos

Summer art workshop

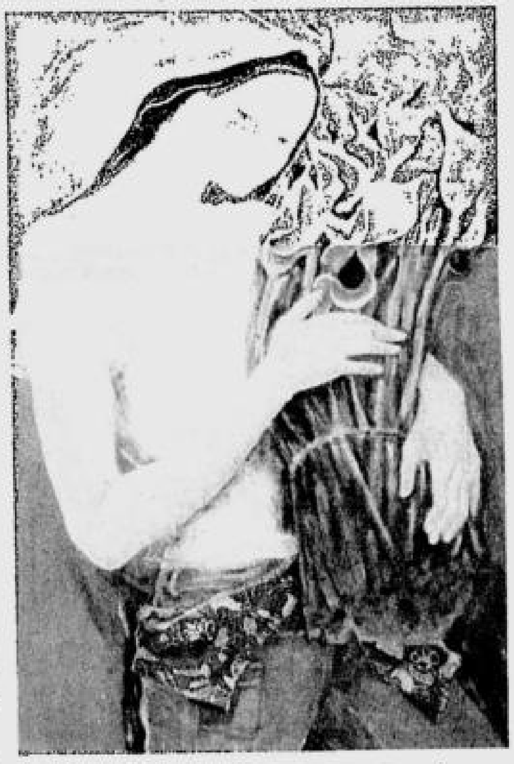
THE POSITIVISM Art Gallery conducts summer art workshops starting March 25 at the Makati Cinema Square, and on April 2 at Walter Mart, Pasay Road cor. Pasong Tamo, Makati City. Registration for the seven-week program is ongoing. Call 8112432 or 0927-5522288.

Pacunayen at De las Islas

GALERIA de las Islas presents "Reminisce with My Masterpieces," a one-man exhibit of watercolors by Leon Pacunayen. The show features works rendered in watercolor using the artist's distinctive wet on wet style. Abstract landscapes and still lifes are also included in the exhibit. The show runs until April 8. Galeria de las Islas is on 3/F, Silahis Center Building, 744 Gen. Luna St., Intramuros, Manila. Call 5272113.

Totally woman, totally 'kikay'

By Gino Dormiendo
Contributor



"CALLA Lily Gatherer," by Remy Boquiren

A SHOW BY EIGHT WOMEN IS A FITTING tribute to womanhood, and more so if the artists, of widely divergent styles, have come together and bonded in art's name, sprung from the well-tended valley of Marikina.

"Kulay Kikay" (Renaissance Gallery, Artwalk, SM Megamall, March 24-31), so-called because of its allusion to the modern Filipina's fashion sense, features senior artists Remy Boquiren and Lydia Velasco, junior artists Sheila Tiangco, Armida Francisco and Lisa Villaseñor, and emergent artist Honey Banal, and sisters Chie and Chigo Cruz (Velasco's daughters).

Boquiren, in "Calla Lily Gatherer," shows her trademark maiden clad in stylish bandanna and jeans, hugging a bouquet of long-stemmed lilies. With her hues in bold profusion, and her women svelte and willowy, Boquiren has clearly evolved into a colorist who has no qualms about seducing the eye.

Velasco has her usual Mother and Child figure in "Puso ng Isang Ina," shrouded in shimmering white cloth, their eyes gazing on each other with tenderly maternal affection. Surely, such a scene may now be considered de rigueur, but given the artist's proclivity for updating religious icons, the work may well liberate artists enamored with convention or tradition, coming in such sensual fashion, as only Velasco could decree.

The works of Tiangco, though encapsulated in still-life genre, are potentially alluring to the viewer. A restaurateur who dabbles in flower painting, Tiangco comes off as a realist who, like Georgia O'Keeffe, magnifies her subjects by rendering them in larger-than-life and allegorical mode.

Given her expertise with tropical blooms, these works cast a seductive and suggestive erotic presence, more so with their partly or generously exposed petals, reddish pistils to boot.

Francisco, who has worked as illustrator and interior designer, has a festive sense of color and mirthful sensibility of composition, most evident in her attempt to render the subject of the body as primal seat of energy. She has done a lot of ethnic themes, indigenous subjects with a dose of universal mirth.

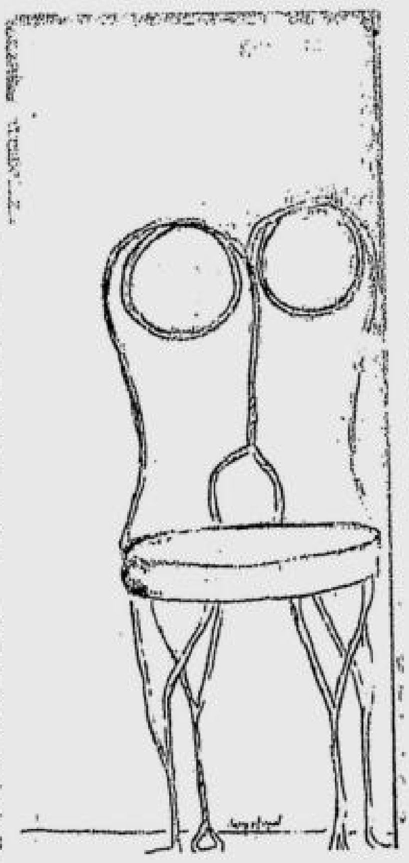
The works of Villaseñor are, of course, no less alluring, simply because they are endowed with joie de vivre, generated by her use of textures and depth. She knows her plant life amazingly well, evident in her use of tropical and garden plants growing abundantly.

Banal, on the other hand, celebrates the banality of images with her two-level compositions, often depicting the collaborative works of children and adults. This she does by actually enlisting the scribbling of her own two kids.

In "Puting Pader," for instance, the diptych shows a two-paneled painting, the bigger part in off-white configuration, and the smaller part in darkened color, with a contrasting sharper image of the same subject.

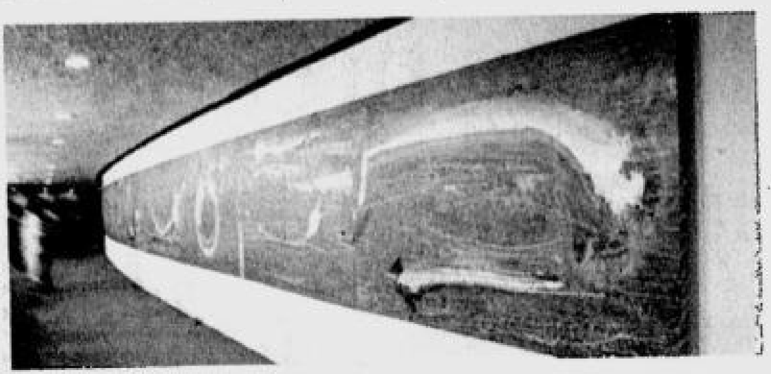
The pieces of sisters Chie and Chigo Cruz are executed in mixed-media painting and sculpture, respectively. The latter has a quirky, irreverent and quasi-primitive painting style that works in uncharted ways, while the former works in resin and plaster of Paris to depict body parts, as in "Hope," where she has two open palms showing olive-hued leaves.

It is still too early to say where these experiments will ultimately lead to, but her derring-do coupled with unblushing view of sexuality is quite affecting, to say the least.



"BATIBOT," by Honey Banal

E-mail author at gdormiendo@yahoo.com



AMAN and his artistic gigantism

An artist creating his own reality

By Constantino C. Tejero

AMANDO SANTOS III'S LATEST WORK is a sight to behold. Called "Event Space" and rendered in oil on canvas, it is a 10-panel piece of artistic gigantism.

This is displayed as a mural in the artist's 11th exhibit until March 26 in the Cultural Center of the Philippines, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City. The single canvas expands to some 5 ft in width and 80 ft in length running along the wall of Pasilyo Vicente Manansala (2/F Hallway).

The young artist, who signs his works simply "Aman," explains: "The long stretch of canvas allows me to create brushstrokes varying in length, size, gravity, violence, texture and movement."

The piece is technically composed of 10 canvases placed side by side on which are broadly applied brushstrokes of red, yellow, orange, white, gray, light blue and yellow-green on a plane of earth-brown.

The brushstrokes—a single stroke or two on each panel—range from circular to arching, peaking, undulating. Seen as a unit, they give the impression of one long disrupted movement.

Says the artist: "A brushstroke applied on the canvas travels for a certain distance in space and time. These strokes vary depending on the applicator used and how much pigment it contains, or the manner and force with which they are applied on the canvas surface."

Aman's method is simple enough, it is the result that appears hard to comprehend. It's like the artist is foisting a game, presenting a jigsaw puzzle to the viewer, or playing with a law of physics.

First, he covered the long canvas with a scratchy color field embellished with giant brushstrokes. Then he fragmented the canvas into 10 equal parts. Finally, he rearranged the parts to break the strokes' visual and physical continuity.

So what does he want to achieve with the disarrangement?

"Once the pieces are joined together in a manipulated sequence, the brushstrokes offer a different visual account on these disjointed spatial indicators as our eyes follow their new course," the artist slyly explains. "It shows possible definitions of events, space and, ultimately, time—as a moment, departing from real time, which escapes the viewer's default knowledge of time's entropic character."

That is, of course, Darwin's theory of relativity here applied on an artwork. Who would have thought something like that was practicable in painting?

The exhibition note elaborates: "The work seeks to contribute to the many possibilities of testing the concepts of space-time as presented in the field of physics. This examination into the broad dimension of physics as a contextual approach to art-making can be a considerable source for critical visual methodology and creative production, as in the case of art theories in semiotics, memory, power. This exhibit is a validation of the artist's chance to create his own reality through his artwork."

It is not surprising then to learn that Aman is taking up his Master of Fine Arts at the University of the Philippines, hotbed of such recondite ideas.

PHILIPPINE TATLER
The Essential Guide to the Philippine Social Season
SOCIETY
BEST of the BEST
THE LIST
100 People You Must Know in Asia
Asia's Most Stylish Women

ASIA'S MOST STYLISH WOMEN
FROM HONG KONG, SHANGHAI, BEIJING, KOREA, THAILAND, MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE, INDONESIA AND THE PHILIPPINES

THE 400 LIST
THE ESSENTIAL REGISTER OF PHILIPPINE HIGH SOCIETY

100 PEOPLE YOU MUST KNOW IN ASIA
THE MOST POWERFUL & INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE IN THE REGION

PLUS: THE BEST PARTIES, GOWNS & WEDDINGS
FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS CALL TEL NO. 8140771 EXT. 111

SMOKE GOES OUT,
TASTE OF FOOD STAYS IN.

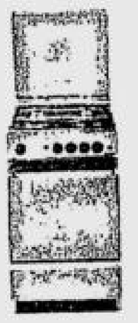
Elba gas range with chimney-like funnel.

CHIMNEY-LIKE FUNNEL

Grilled food almost always has a hint of smoke-taste especially when done in your oven. And there is not much you can do about it. But Elba Cookers has already anticipated that problem, thus coming up with a built-in chimney-like funnel, that is located behind all its gas ovens.

This funnel sucks in all the smoke inside your oven, thus eliminating the chance of it going to your food. So you will enjoy more of the taste of what you are cooking and less of the smoke.

And with all these features, your Elba is worth your every peso.



ELBA®
COOKERS FROM ITALY
CERTIFIED ISO 9001:2000

AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING LEADING APPLIANCE STORES:
SM Appliance Center · Anson Emporium · ABENSON · Automatic Centre · WESTERN

ELBA Showrooms
MC Home Depot Ortigas, Meralco Ave., Ortigas, Pasig City Tel: 683-0101 • MC Home Depot The Fort, Global City, Makati City Tel: 816-2562 • MC Home Depot Pasong Tamo, Makati City Tel: 893-3070 loc. 31 • Alabang Home Depot, Zapote Road, Muntinlupa Tel: 771-1619 • Anson's Emporium, Level 2, Pasay Road, Makati City • Elba Showroom Gapan, Olongapo Road, San Fernando, Pampanga Tel: (045) 961-3257 • Elba showroom Cebu, 888 Winner Bldg., AC Cortez Ave., Mandaue City, Cebu Tel: (032) 344-6140

A PEKAS-FREE PHILIPPINES WITH Pynocare 40 Actisome

From as far north as Baguio to as far south as Davao, the common problem of dark patches, skin discoloration, dark spots or pekas on many Filipina faces is steadily becoming a thing of the past, largely due to the first oral treatment for pekas — Pynocare 40 Actisome.

Celebrating its first year in the Philippines, Pynocare 40 Actisome has gone around the Philippines over the last 12 months through the "Pekas-Free Filipina" mall activation tour to allow more Filipinas to discover for themselves the wonders of pekas-free skin.

As part of Mega We Care's initiative, it will continue to visit malls in other parts of the archipelago to bring to more women this trusted and reliable brand in Southeast Asia backed up by:

- Two clinical studies in Thailand and Malaysia attesting to its 85% efficacy rate
- Strengthened by its unique MSCC (Melasma Skin Clear Complexion) Complex Actisome product formulation that combats melasma or pekas from within
- And over 200,000 women all over Southeast Asia enjoying the benefits of pekas-free skin

Vicky, 50, Mother
Benita, 38, Housewife
Eva, 38, Self-employed
Flordeliza, 48, Housewife

Vicky Batu, Benita Vinluan, Eva Ducat and Flordeliza Pamplona of Metro Manila were among the first wave of satisfied Filipinas who are now enjoying glowing pekas-free skin!

Catch the Pekas-Free Filipinas Tour in major malls nationwide:

Glorietta, Ayala Center
March 9-12

SM Megamall
March 9-16

Island City Mall, Bohol
March 17-19

SM North Edsa
March 30-April 5

Be one of the Pekas-Free Filipinas!

The bandwagon of satisfied Pynocare users continue to grow as more and more women from all over the Philippines are discovering the secret to Pekas-Free skin!

"Sun exposure and use of cosmetics over the last seven years caused my pekas. After taking Pynocare, the discoloration all over my body lightened by 70% and became smoother! I am satisfied with the results."
- **Adela Hipolito**, a 46-year-old businesswoman and Pynocare user of 8 weeks

Adela Hipolito of Tarlac

"I've been using Pynocare for a month now and I am very satisfied with the results. The changes I have seen on my face have convinced me to continue using Pynocare."
- **Rosanna Ocampo**, a 46-year-old housewife, Pynocare user of 4 weeks

Rosanna Ocampo from Baguio

"I play golf a lot and I've been suffering from Melasma for 5 years now, as a result of excess sun exposure. I tried topical creams but struggled with the recurring condition and felt that it was a waste of money. Now that I am using Pynocare, I am satisfied with the lightening and reduction."
- **Joyce Fukuda**, a 44-year-old golfer, Pynocare user of 4 weeks

Joyce Fukuda from Pampanga

"I have had melasma for the last five years as a result of excessive use of astringents and direct exposure to the sun. Since I started using Pynocare, I've noticed my cheeks have cleared up considerably. People around me have started noticing it too."
- **Adela Pasicolan**, a 34-year-old Assistant Branch Manager, Pynocare user of 3 months

Adela Pasicolan from Davao

"I discovered Pynocare during the Pekas-Free Filipina Mall Tour here in Cebu. Since then, I have been using the product and observed that my melasma spots started to lighten. I'm happy with the results."
- **Jenny Chua Chan**, a 48-year-old Bank Employee and Pynocare user of 3 months

Jenny Chan of Cebu

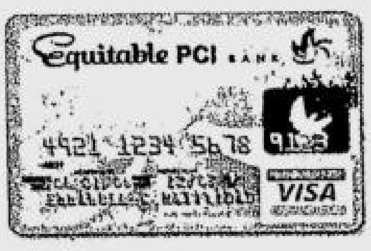
No Peels. No Chemicals. No Lasers. No Pain.
Just 2 capsules a day for at least 8 weeks, and Be Pekas-Free.

MEGA We care
Unit 4B, 4th Floor, EuroVilla II, 118 VA Rufino Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City

Available at mercury drug
NAKASISIGURO GAMOT AY LAGING BAGO
and other leading drugstores nationwide

For more information on Pynocare 40 Actisome, call HOTLINE: 894-1111 • TEXT LINE: 0917-8274330

Enjoy our Card's dual personality.



Carry only **ONE** card and get billed in US Dollars for your foreign transactions and in Pesos for your local purchases. No double-edged offer here. Just a straightforward idea that spells double convenience.

Also, enjoy a world of privileges with Equitable Visa Card's World's Best Offers. Huge discounts and unique perks from top-tiered travel destinations around the world are yours exclusively.

Equitable CARD VISA

www.equitablecard.com

APPLY NOW!
867-7977
1-800-1888-3264
(Domestic Toll-Free)

*Terms and conditions apply.

Familiarity breeds contemplation

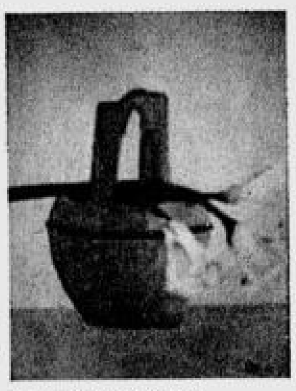
By Jessica Jalandoni-Robillos
Contributor

RIGHT AFTER EARNING HER FINE Arts degree at the College of the Holy Spirit where she majored in Art Education, Rona Buenaseda became Onie Chua and settled down to have three children. It would take eight years before she would put her degree to use, applying as an art teacher at the Immaculate Conception Academy. She only taught there for a year, though, because of maternal duties.

Unwilling to give up teaching, Rona decided to offer art classes and began with one student in her garage in San Juan. By giving out flyers, the number of enrollees grew and she now also holds classes in Makati. The ages of her pupils range from 7 to 60 years old, and she only allows a maximum of 10 per class, careful to give each student sufficient attention.

She is keen on urging youngsters to explore their artistic inclinations, recalling how her parents were very supportive of her own leaning. She tells of how they fondly remember her constant doodling even before she learned to write. Throughout her elementary and high school years at Assumption College and also while her kids grew, Rona turned to sketching.

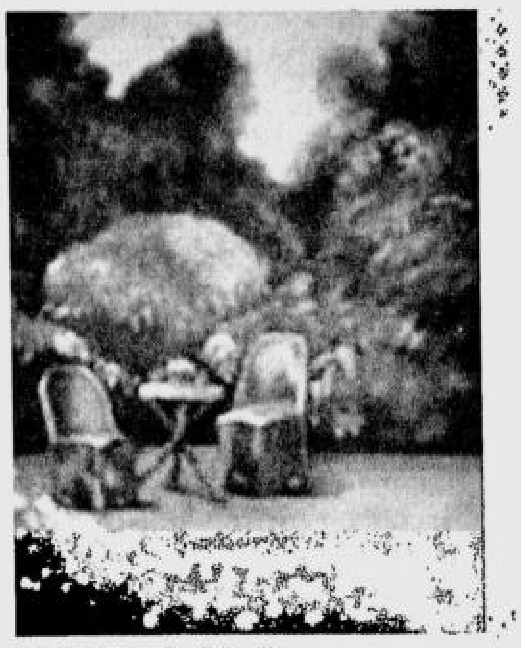
Nowadays her sketches serve as studies for works in watercolor, acrylic, and oil. Her first solo exhibit featured only watercolor pieces, but as she has reacquainted herself with oil, she finds she is enjoying her work even more.


"THREE Wishes"

Her second show is "Seeing Through Color" at the Crucible Gallery (4/L, SM Megamall; tel. 6356061), March 21-April 2, presenting pieces that are pretty and feminine, very much like the artist herself.

Although in this age it may be inaccurate to say that floral arrangements, food and gardens are distinct womanly preoccupations, the notion seems apt for Rona Chua, since it applies both in her paintings and her being a homemaker.

Tranquility


"UNDER the April Sun"

New in this collection are serene landscapes, some inspired by pictures, some by imagination. It seems, though, that the inclusion of garden chairs and an empty wooden boat indicate a personal want for tranquility—the artist being a mother/wife/teacher must somehow yearn for quiet time.

"Under the April Sun," for instance, echoes the constant wish of every busy mom for solitude, to hie off alone as a break from wifely duties and domesticity in general.

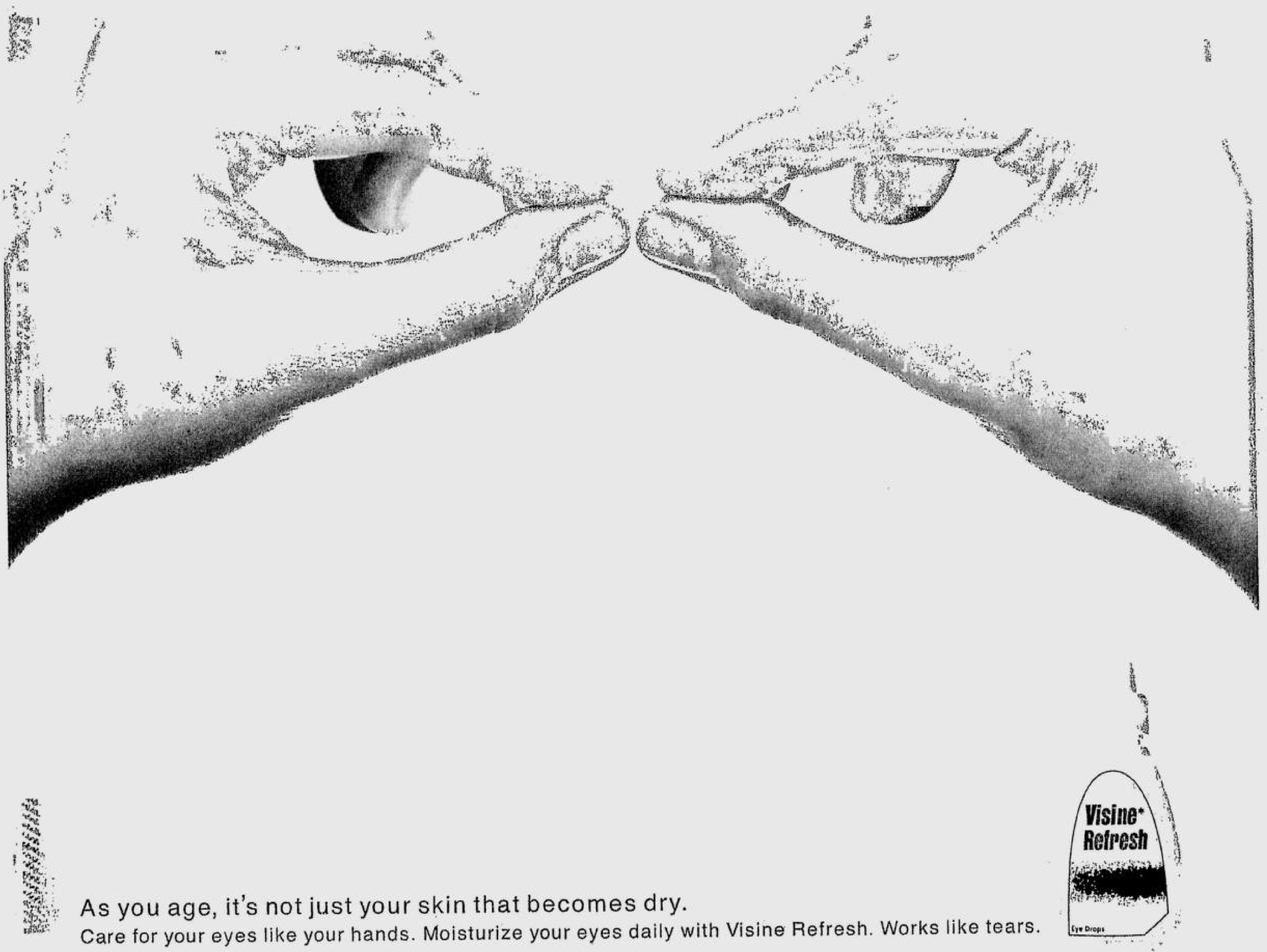
Which is not to say that Rona pines for a certain refuge. In fact, she says she is at peace and happiest when she is painting while listening to classical music.

This contentment is evident in her works, such as her florals surrounded by a dreamlike aura. The pieces are best experienced firsthand, because the ethereal detail do not show in pictures.

This outing, in fact, allows viewers to see through Rona Chua—in choosing to render the ever-familiar still life, she allows viewers a peek into her charmed life, one with loving husband and children she dotes on, who support her in return.

Hers is art borne of sheer, simple joy, speaking of fulfillment and fulfillment itself in its creation.

E-mail author at jejaro2002@yahoo.com



As you age, it's not just your skin that becomes dry.
Care for your eyes like your hands. Moisturize your eyes daily with Visine Refresh. Works like tears.

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback:
Inquirer life name/age/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

SMOOTH & SEXY.
HAIR-FREE
BIKINI LINES.
Call the Facial Care
Centre for LaserLight
892 SKIN (7546)

ALDABA as Cio Cio San in "Madama Butterfly"

Maestra Dalisay Aldaba deserved to be National Artist

Celebrate your child's graduation.

Make your reservations now.

Check out the RESTAURANTS classification in the
DPC
YELLOW PAGES

By Pablo A. Tariman
Contributor

MAESTRA DALISAY ALDABA, the last great Filipina Madama Butterfly, was laid to rest last Wednesday to the strains of Puccini's "Un bel di" (sang with dramatic fervor by UP student Deeda Barreto) at the Santuario Chapel in Forbes Park.

A few months back, her equally illustrious sister, Estefania Aldaba Lim (who had passed away a mere two weeks earlier before Maestra) had asked me, "Pablo, you know the career of my sister, Dalisay? Don't you think she deserves to be National Artist?"

I said the honor was long overdue but the bureaucracy which still controls the leading cultural institutions has a strange way of working in this country.

Award-giving bodies only think of giving artists their long-overdue recognition only when they are already dead. The research groups working for these awards committees only work during awards season and don't really monitor artists who devoted an entire life to their art.

(I remember a cultural institution giving last-minute tribute to Zeneida Amador only in her deathbed.)

To those who didn't know Maestra Aldaba well, she is simply the last of the great Filipino Madama Butterflys and her passing away signals the end of an opera era in the country. She followed the illustrious trail of the country's first distinguished Cio Cio San—Isang Tapales and Jovita Fuentes. The first died without a decent tribute from the CCP or any cultural organization but the latter became National Artist.

Aldaba didn't stop even after her performing days were over. She taught, she founded the Opera Guild of the Philippines, and was laid to rest without a single representative from CCP and NCCA paying tribute to her in the Requiem Mass.

It was the same act of indifference I saw in the wake of Maestra Isang Tapales and Maestra Mercedes Matias Santiago (the country's first Lucia di Lammermoor).

Aldaba debuted in Madama Butterfly in the late '40s at the New York City Opera and reprised it in Philadelphia, Washington DC, and later in Spain (Oviedo) and France (Lyon, Nice, Marseilles).

The eminent Paul Hume reviewed Aldaba's Washington debut: "Miss Aldaba proved one of the finest singers to take on the role in the city. Her appearance is perfect for the part and she adds to it an ease and engaging stage manner that carried her through the unusually long role with no difficulty. Her voice is small but beautifully produced. It carried well and sounded as full as the larger voices with which it was matched. She won an ovation after her big Second Act aria."

As I reviewed the country's illustrious array of first-rate performing artists, none of them (except for Jovita Fuentes)—from violinist Carmencita Lozada, soprano Evelyn Mandac and pianist Cecile Licad—will ever get to be National Artists until their careers are long over.

Tribute to Redentor Romero

Another person who devoted an entire life to enriching the country's cultural life was the late violinist-conductor Redentor Romero. He brought first-rate artists to the countryside and I met first-rate instrumentalists and singers (from Nelly Miricioiu to Alexandru Tomescu) through him.

MAESTRA/D2

Discover An Exciting WORLD
FOR YOUR KIDS
(3 TO 12 yrs. old)
Equiv. to 3 Courses: Speech, Grammar, Reading & Comprehension
Speech Arts, Theater Arts, English Fluency, Grammar, Reading & Comprehension, Character Bldg., Personality Dev.
Summer Classes Start Apr 17, 18, 22, May 16
Present Classes Available
SPECIAL FEATURE: VTR-SEE YOURSELF ON A LARGE SCREEN
Only at WCT - Your kid will experience seeing & hearing himself on a large screen
• FREE SPEECH MANUAL
• FREE LIFETIME TRAINING
WCT Wilma Cruz-Tapalla
ACADEME OF SPEECH AND PERSONALITY
SINCE 1967
www.wctacademe.com
GREENHILLS
55 Annapolis
723-4118
or 726-8768
ORTIGAS CENTER
Meralco Ave.
638-8034
or 726-87-68

Great deals, buy now.
Chevrolet Aveo M/T
AS LOW AS
P59,000*
AVEO
Chevrolet Optra LS A/T
AS LOW AS
P89,000*
OPTRA
Plus free auto insurance

Sit back and enjoy low down payments on the cool Chevrolet Aveo or the sleek Chevrolet Optra. With low monthly financing schemes, you can drive away feeling like a million bucks.

Promo duration: March 4 to 31, 2006. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1387, Series of 2006.

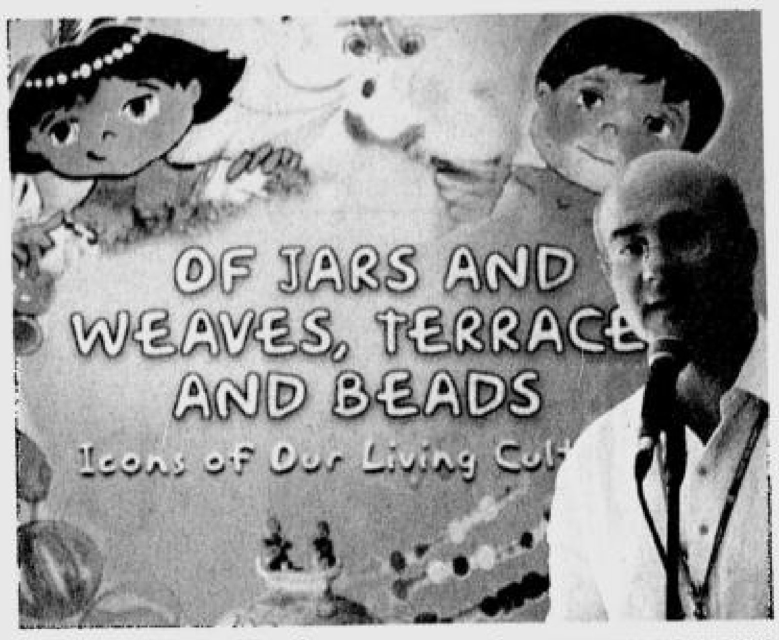
			*LOW DOWNPAYMENT						LOW MONTHLY
MODEL	SRP	DOWNPAYMENT	12	18	24	36	48	60	@50% DP/60 mos
Aveo 1.5 M/T	570,000	59,000	45,495	31,175	24,175	17,204	13,782	12,009	6,831
Aveo 1.5 A/T	610,000	69,000	48,166	33,005	25,595	18,214	14,592	12,715	7,310
Optra 1.6 L M/T	650,000	89,000	49,946	34,225	26,541	18,888	15,131	13,185	7,790
Optra 1.6 L A/T	696,000	89,000	54,042	37,032	28,717	20,436	16,372	14,266	8,341
Optra 1.6 LS M/T	724,000	89,000	56,535	38,740	30,042	21,379	17,127	14,924	8,676
Optra 1.6 LS A/T	770,000	89,000	60,630	41,546	32,218	22,928	18,367	16,005	9,228

I am CHEVROLET

Test drive today at your nearest Chevrolet/GM Autoworld dealer: MAKATI 867-8183 to 87 • QUEZON AVENUE 374-1250 TO 59 • SHAW 535-4944, 533-6349, 533-8375, 533-1263 • PASIG 672-1612 to 14, 672-1486 • ALABANG 771-1206 to 09 • NORTH EDSA 374-9992 to 97, 374-9963 • MANILA 564-0129 • CEBU (032) 234-0426 to 29 • PAMPANGA (045) 963-3333, (045) 860-2000 • DAVAO (082) 300-7777, (082) 235-3811 • DAGUPAN (075) 523-7777, (075) 523-1835, (075) 515-5577

PHILAM SAVINGS BANK
BPI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK
Get started on tomorrow
1800-1888-4646
CHEVROLET 24hr. ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE
3-YEAR OR 100,000 KM. WARRANTY (WHICHEVER COMES FIRST)

Children's book fosters pride in Pinoy heritage



HSBC CEO Warner Manning

PHOTOS BY JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

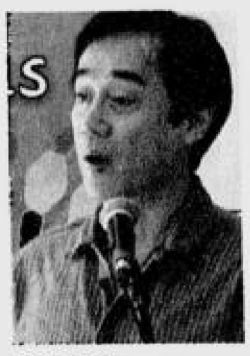
ON ITS 130TH YEAR IN the Philippines, the Hongkong Shanghai Banking Corp. (HSBC), with the National Commission for Culture and the Arts and Sa Aklat Sisikat Foundation (SAS), has released "Of Jars and Weaves, Terraces and Beads: Icons of Our Living Culture."

The bilingual picture book in full color consists of seven stories based on seven cultural icon that every Filipino child should know. The seven icons are related to the early civilization that the Filipinos had before foreign colonial influences. The icons are based on research by cultural anthropologist F. Landa Jocano.

The seven icons are the Banawe Rice Terraces, which show ancient Filipinos' engineering skills; abaca *ikat* textile weave; mummification, which shows native Filipinos' knowledge of chemistry and the sciences; ancient glass beads; the Balanghai, which shows the native skill in boat-making; the Laguna copper plate, which contrains ancient syllabary writing; the *Manunggul* jar, which represents a worldview and belief in the afterlife. Each story also reflects a value system.

HEIDI Abad

CARLA Pacis



AUDIE Gemora

Award-winning writersCarla Pacis and Heidi Emily Eusebio Abad wrote the stories.

"The icons we have written about show a Philippines that every Filipino child can be proud of," Pacis said.

"It is hoped this book will remind today's generation of Filipinos about the values of industry, honesty, respect, and passion for protecting and improving upon the legacy of our forebears," Abad said.

Illustrations are by painter and printmaker Jeannie Javelosa.

Sa Aklat Sisikat (SAS), whose vision is to build a nation of readers through the implementation of reading programs in public schools, will distribute some 5,000 copies to 480 public schools nationwide.

At present, HSBC is sponsoring reading programs in 22 public elementary schools in Quezon City. HSBC will also provide copies to the HSBC Readiscovery Center libraries in Muntinlupa, Pasig, Manila and Quezon City.

"As the beneficiary of this HSBC-sponsored heritage children's book, the Sa Aklat Sisikat Foundation is enthusiastic and thrilled that our Filipino school children will learn more about our early civilization through this beautiful book! Pride in one's country begins with an understanding of one's heritage. This book takes that much-needed first step," said Margarita Delgado, president of SAS.

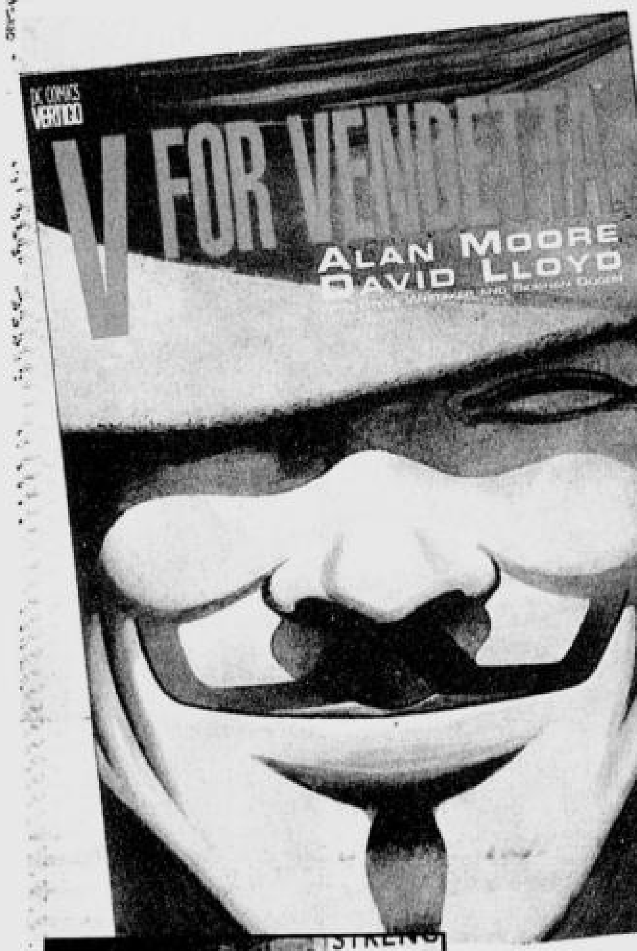
Limited copies are available to the public for only P150 at Mag:net branches in Paseo Center, ABS-CBN Complex, Katipunan Ave., Shangri-La Mall, SM North Edsa, SM CenterPoint and the BayWalk.

Copies may also be purchased through the HSBC credit card. Log on to www.hsbc.com.ph to download the order form.

Call the HSBC public affairs department, 8305781. For every copy one buys, HSBC donates a copy to a public school library.

FROM COMIC BOOK TO FILM

The mask of the red death



STRENG
THROUG
UNITY
UNITY
THROUG
FA

V (HUGO Weaving) introduces himself after rescuing Evey (Natalie Portman) from London's "Fingermen."

THERE ARE SEVERAL REASONS why "V for Vendetta" is not your run-of-the-mill hero movie. The first is the mask (it has got to be the mask). Perhaps the only comic book hero whose real face or identity is never revealed, V wears a mask and hair that are supposed to be a likeness of Guy Fawkes, the famous conspirator hanged by England's James I for conspiracy to bomb London's Parliament building in 1605.

Second would be the expression on the mask—a veritable novelty. It wears a wide and silly grin, evoking a persona that borders on the mischievous if not the downright mad. And third is the actual, theatrical madness in the character behind the mask, in a manner reminiscent of Jack Nicholson's Joker in Tim Burton's "Batman" (1989).

"Vendetta" is based on the Warrior comic-book series created by Alan Moore and David Lloyd in 1981 and completed as a graphic novel under Vertigo (of the DC banner) in 1989. Set against a backdrop of a Britain in the near future, the story tells of an unforeseen "hero" out to remind everyone that life should not be as puppet-like as the fascist government directs. His medium of choice? Terrorism and bombing key London structures such as the Parliament building and the Old Bailey.

The targets are symbolic, Parliament being the center of government and the Old Bailey the central criminal court, the proverbial cornerstone of Britain's justice system, which V considers to have fallen under the corrupt control of the fascist regime.

But meanwhile, V's intentions are not free from impurity, as he also nurses a murderous grudge against the government, particularly several personalities involved in his imprisonment in the government-run Larkhill Asylum, an incarceration that destroyed and created him at the same time.

V for visually stunning

"Vendetta" the movie cuts off much from the comic book story line, and effects a more than just a few changes perhaps for cinematic effect. But the script by the Wachowski brothers (of "The Matrix" fame) leaves viewers hanging inasmuch as the final product is wanting in proper character and story development. The story is hard to follow, and moviegoers will wonder from time to time why and how things come to be.

Needless to say, fans of the graphic novel must brace themselves for major tweaking in the story, as in the case of Evey, V's young female assistant, who becomes older in the movie version and whose background is changed to make her an activist against the dystopian regime.

EVEY (Natalie Portman)

The Wachowskis, however, together with a brilliant direction by their "Matrix" colleague, James McTeigue, ably pull off a visually stunning watch rich with the red of blood and roses and the tense, brooding darkness of a democratically failed London.

The action sequences should satisfy viewers wowed by the quick and powerful fighting trend started by the "Matrix" trilogy.

V is played magnificently by Hugo Weaving, whose voice acting shows why he is in a league of his own. Unlike in the cases of his Agent Smith and Elrond, Weaving had to find a way to effectively impart the masked V's emotions only through the nuances and tone of his speech. He succeeds verily.

Natalie Portman's Evey, meanwhile, is likewise commendable. An accomplished actress herself, Portman sheds off her sweet countenance for a shaved head, a troubled look, and subtly angry eyes.

They are joined by actors Stephen Rea as Chief Inspector Finch, and John Hurt as the irritatingly self-absorbed and overconfident fascist leader Adam Sutler.

All in all, "Vendetta" will etch itself in viewers' minds because of the questions that accompanies it. What if you have a hero who does not save lives, but kills in order to achieve his goal? Which is the hero, and which the villain? The question raises a chilling reminder of present and recent societal events, globally.

After all, in not revealing who is behind the mask, V does not represent any man or any ideology, but becomes merely an idea, something that puts a twist in what and how we think about things. And like he says, an idea does not go away that easily. In fact, it doesn't die, but will remain cavorting playfully in people's minds, dancing to Beethoven's Fifth Symphony while a statue of a lady holding a sword and scales blows up into a fireworks display.

Book club on 'Dante Club,' 'Cholera'

THE POWER BOOK CLUB WILL TACKLE "THE Dante Club" by Matthew Pearl on March 28, 6:30 p.m., at Powerbooks Greenbelt, and "Love in the Time of Cholera" by Nobel Prize author Gabriel García Márquez on March 29, 6:30 p.m., at Powerbooks Megamall.

"The Dante Club" is about the literary geniuses who are finishing America's first translation of the "Divine Comedy" and are preparing to unveil Dante's remarkable visions to the New World. The members of the club fight to keep a sacred literary cause alive, but their plans fall apart when a series of murders erupts through Boston and Cambridge. The scholars realize that the gruesome killings are modeled on the descriptions of Hell's punishments from Dante's Inferno.

"Love in the Time of Cholera" is about unrequited passion so strong that it binds three people's lives together for more than 50 years. In the story of Florentino Ariza, who waits more than half a century to declare his undying love to the beautiful Fermina Daza, whom he lost to Dr. Juvenal Urbino so many years before, García Márquez has created a vividly absorbing fictional world.

Registrants will get a 10-percent off the featured book. Powercard Plus holders can get 20-percent off. The first 16 registrants will get a free cup of coffee from the Java Man.

Powerbooks Specialty Store has branches at Greenbelt 4 (7576428 to 29), Megamall (6352898 to 99), Alabang Town Center (8505662 to 63), Glorietta (7527075), Shangri-La (6380023/25) and Robinsons Place Ermita (5233334/5243448).

Maestra Dalisay Aldaba. . .

From page D1

By coincidence, Romanian violinist Alexandru Tomescu will be in Manila Wednesday this week for a performance on March 26, at the Philamlife Theater, with Mary Anne Espina.

The first thing this violinist does before he does his first rehearsal here is to go the Marikina cemetery to visit the grave of Romero.

I find this an irony because Romero is held in very high regard as an artist abroad but ignored in his own country.

But I suppose the best tribute any artist can get will not come from award-giving bodies but from the heart and mind of the audiences which get respite from national turmoil from the unforgettable performances of these artists.

In memory of Mr. Romero and Maestra Dalisay Aldaba, I will ask Alexandru Tomescu to play "Meditation" from the opera "Thais" as part of his Manila program.

Those who want to catch up with this concert may call 9007023 or text 0910-8851136. Mr. Tomescu will also be heard at the Pasig Museum on March 28 as part of the ongoing Pasig Summer Music Festival opened by tenor Otoniel Gonzaga, who ran out of encore numbers in that concert.

Dumaguete writing workshop now accepting applications

APPLICATIONS FOR FELLOWSHIPS TO THE 45th edition of the National Writers Workshop in Dumaguete City are being accepted until March 31.

National Artist for Literature Edith L. Tiempo, workshop director, announced that the summer sessions will be held May 8 to 27.

Application letters should be addressed to Dr. Tiempo, 2/F, CAP Bldg., Rizal Blvd., Dumaguete City, together with a resumé, two 1" x 2" photos of the applicant, and manuscripts in English in any of the following genres, with respective quantity: 3-5 short stories, 7-10 poems, 3-5 creative nonfiction essays, or 2 one-act plays.

The manuscripts can be sent as hardcopy, but should also be accompanied by a disk copy, preferably in MS Word, plus a certification that the works are original and a recommendation letter from a professor of literature or creative writing or a writer of distinction.

Fellowships cover board and lodging.

Writers who have already received fellowships in other national workshops for this year are enjoined to apply at another time.

Asean-Japan technical theater workshop

A FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND TRAINING in the field of technical theater runs March 13-27 at the Sinag Arts Studio in Mandaluyong City as the Sinag Arts Foundation, in cooperation with the Japan Foundation, holds the Asean-Japan Technical Theater and Design Workshop.

With the theme "Acting Together, Working Together," the workshop will gather technical theater professionals from Asean-member countries, including the Philippines and Japan. Its aim is to advance the knowledge and skills of the participants and create a network for intellectual and artistic exchange related to technical theater.

Theater design experts from the Philippines and Japan will facilitate the workshop, headed by Japanese lighting designer Shoko Matsumoto; top Filipino designer Gino Gonzales; theater manager expert Ed Murillo; arts administration expert and Cultural Center of the Philippines president Nestor O. Jardin; and Japanese sound designer Ishi Hiromi and technical director Hitoshi Yishiki.

A highlight of the workshop is the restaging of Tanghalang Pilipino's hit musical "Zsa Zsa Zaturnah."

Call 5313491, fax 5319524, e-mail sinagarts@yahoo.com or visit www.sinag-arts.org

---

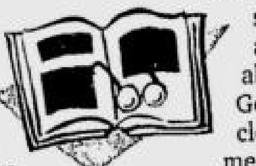
HOW HAS A BOOK CHANGED MY LIFE?

This book taught me how to go beyond my self-absorption

By Susan G. Daluz

WHEN MY OWN MARRIAGE of 20 years was on the verge of destruction due to mid-life crisis and depression, "The Purpose-Driven Life," by Rick Warren, greatly helped me in pulling myself back together.

This book has opened my eyes to the reality of this question: When others, meaning my immediate family (especially my children), depend so much on me for their well-being, physical health, emotional stability, and, most important, their spiritual nourishment, whom can I depend on?



"It's in Christ... we find out who we are and what we are living for." (Ephesians 1:11)

"The Purpose-Driven Life" has given me the truth and inspiration on the great Divine Plan for one's life and the proper attitude aligned with God's.

I realized that wherever God has placed me, there is always a reason. When the needs of the people entrusted in my care are met, I see the face of God.

Giving encouragement, a smile, an expression of support and, most of the time, by just being there to keep the family together and happy, can positively change one's life.

Looking beyond my self-absorption and rising above—through God's grace—obstacles have prompted me to give unconditional love and selfless service not only to those dearest to me but also to others.

Thus, I can truly declare that this soul-piercing book, "The Purpose-Driven Life," has largely affected my personal, family and social life.

In celebration of the Philippine Daily Inquirer's 20th anniversary, get a chance to win P3,000 PowerBooks gift certificates and be featured in the INQUIRER's pages by writing about the power of reading. For contest mechanics, log on to www.powerbooks.com.ph

Chowking
超群
Delivery
702-8888
(INITIALLY AVAILABLE IN METRO MANILA)
Daming choices. Isang numero.

Seven thespians on one stage

By Joel Trinidad
Contributor

REPERTORY PHILIPPINES' newest production, "7 ng Umaga," the nine-member cast of which I am a humble part, is a Philippine adaptation (in English) of Paul Osborn's highly acclaimed Broadway drama "Morning's at Seven."

This play is something of a Repertory Philippines homecoming for us, a "new beginning" for a lot of venerable theater veterans whose acting experience, taken together, clocks a staggering 200-plus years!

Here, in alphabetical order, are the nine returning Rep actors of "7 ng Umaga."

Tony Amador (first Rep show: "Miss Julie," 1967). Tito Tony has performed with several theater groups here and abroad. He is the brother of Rep's late great co-founder Zeneida "Tita Bibot" Amador, who directed him in the first-ever Rep production. He took a break from Rep shortly after that, citing creative differences with the director in the form of her hitting him on the head a lot.

Baby Barredo (co-founder, Repertory Philippines). Who hasn't heard of Baby Barredo? A graduate of the prestigious Juilliard School in New York, Tita Baby has performed in and directed literally hundreds of plays in several countries. This, however, is her first time to direct a play and star in it at the same time. Thus, she is the only member of the cast the director has not yelled at.

Liesl Batucan (first Rep show: "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," 1993). Liesl was working in Sycip, Gorres and Velayo as a corporate finance consultant when she attended a Rep audition and was instantly hired. These days, this immensely talented artist spends most of her time acting, singing and assistant-directing.

Miguel Faustmann (first Rep show: "Hello, Dolly," 1974). An architect by profession, this Austrian-Spanish 1985 Aliw awardee is also a director, set designer, voice talent and commercial model. Interestingly, while many of us have struggled to use unaccented English for this adaptation, Miguel has had no trouble at all sounding completely and authentically Filipino.

Jay Valencia-Glorioso (first Rep show: "Les Misérables," 1993). Jay is one of the founders (with Karla Gutierrez, Nolyn Cabahug, and several others) of POC, or the Philippine Opera Company. But she is actually a dancer by training. Not only has she trained with Filipinescas, she was also a dance scholar under the highly respected Tita Radaic.

Enchang Kaimo (first Rep show: "Lysistrata," 1968). A former drama student of Tita Bibot and Tita Baby at St. Joseph's, Enchang was a Rep actor before there even was a Rep. Though Enchang first joined Rep as a stage manager/usherette/ticket seller/sandwich maker, Tita Bibot and Tita Baby kept collaring her and forcing her to step in whenever some actor got sick or fired. The rest is history.

THE CAST of Repertory Philippines' "7 ng Umaga," an adaptation of Paul Osborn's "Morning's at Seven"

Joel Trinidad (first Rep show: "Kismet,"1989). Joel is an actor, a voice talent, a commercial model, an acting coach, an improv comedian, an English teacher, a lyricist, and a dazzling playwright who is funny, talented, handsome, and also smart enough to have volunteered to write this article.

Joy Virata (first Rep show: "How the Other Half Loves," 1976). Tita Joy has appeared in countless plays and musicals, written the critically acclaimed musical "Miong," and developed the immensely successful Repertory Children's Theater, where she has been working with wicked witches, dwarfs, boys made of wood, and magic beanstalks.

Chiqui Xerez-Burgos (first Rep show: "The Merchant of Venice,"1995). Famous mostly for having the most misspelled name in local theater, Chiqui Xerez-Burgos is a familiar face on stage and screen. He joined Rep in 1995, apparently enjoying the experience so much that he waited a full 11 years to do it again.

"7 Ng Umaga" runs March 24-April 9 at Rep's Globe Theater at Onstage in Greenbelt I. Call 8870710 or 8919999.

K A M A Y A N
HANDOG GRADUATION '06!

Handprint Fan, Libreng Pampapresko!

Welcome Drink, Libreng Pampalamig!

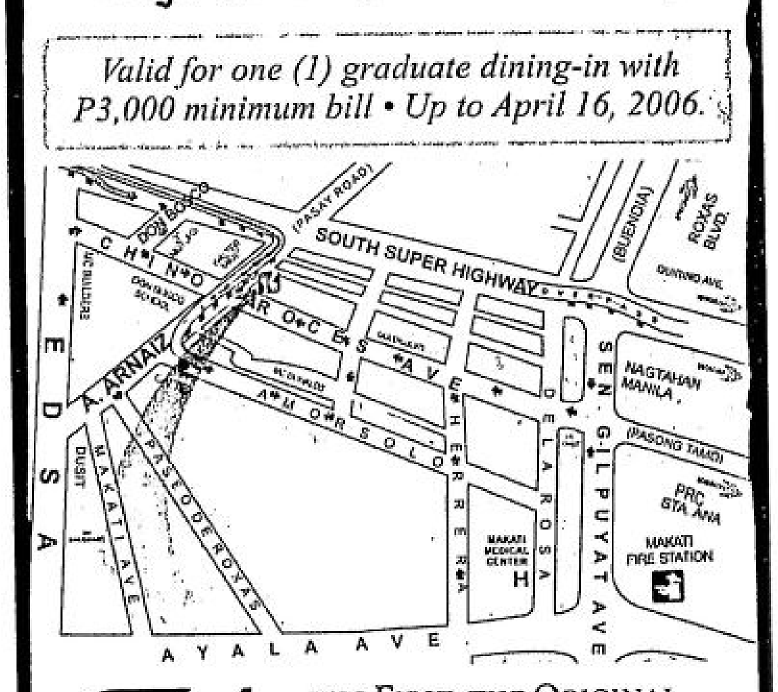
Stuffed Toy, Libreng Pampaaliw!

Sugpo Mantecado, Libreng Pampabusog!
(or a serving of Lechon de Leche)

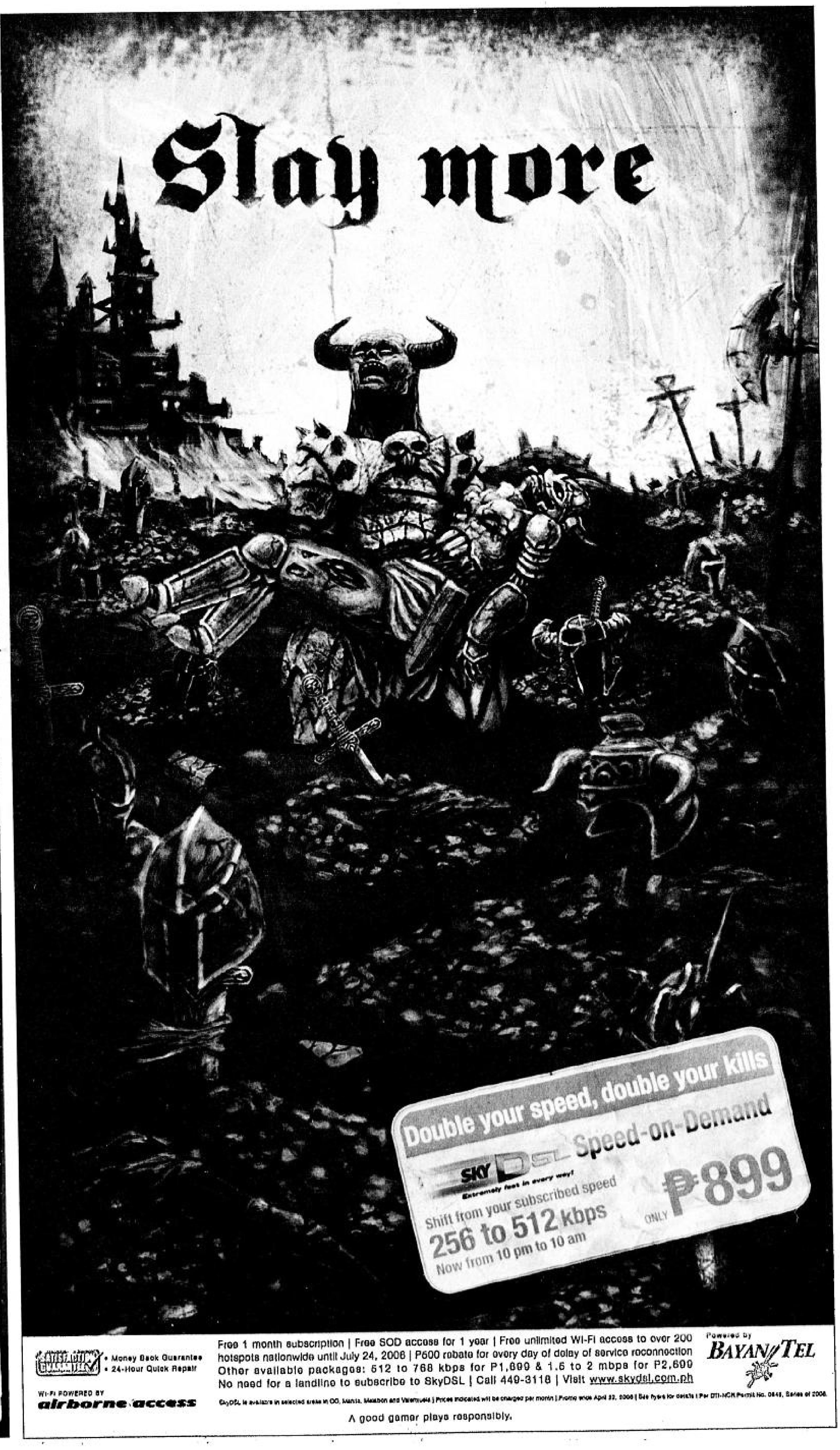
mabuhay! ang Pag-asa ng Bayan

Congratulations, Graduates 2006!

Valid for one (1) graduate dining-in with P3,000 minimum bill • Up to April 16, 2006.



THE FIRST. THE ORIGINAL.
THE BEST FILIPINO RESTAURANT
KAMAYAN
PASAY ROAD
47 ARNAIZ AVE. COR. SANTILLAN ST., MAKATI CITY
email: kamayan.pasayroad@yahoo.com
TEL. 815-1463
843-3604 / 844-4562
FREE VALET PARKING • NO SERVICE CHARGE


Slay more
Double your speed, double your kills
SKY DSL Speed-on-Demand
Extremely fast in every way!
Shift from your subscribed speed
256 to 512 kbps
Now from 10 pm to 10 am
ONLY ₱899

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED • Money Back Guarantee • 24-Hour Quick Repair
Wi-Fi POWERED BY airborne access

Free 1 month subscription | Free SOD access for 1 year | Free unlimited Wi-Fi access to over 200 hotspots nationwide until July 24, 2006 | P600 rebate for every day of delay of service reconnection
Other available packages: 512 to 768 kbps for P1,699 & 1.5 to 2 mbps for P2,699
No need for a landline to subscribe to SkyDSL | Call 449-3118 | Visit www.skydsl.com.ph

Powered by BAYANTEL

A good gamer plays responsibly.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE